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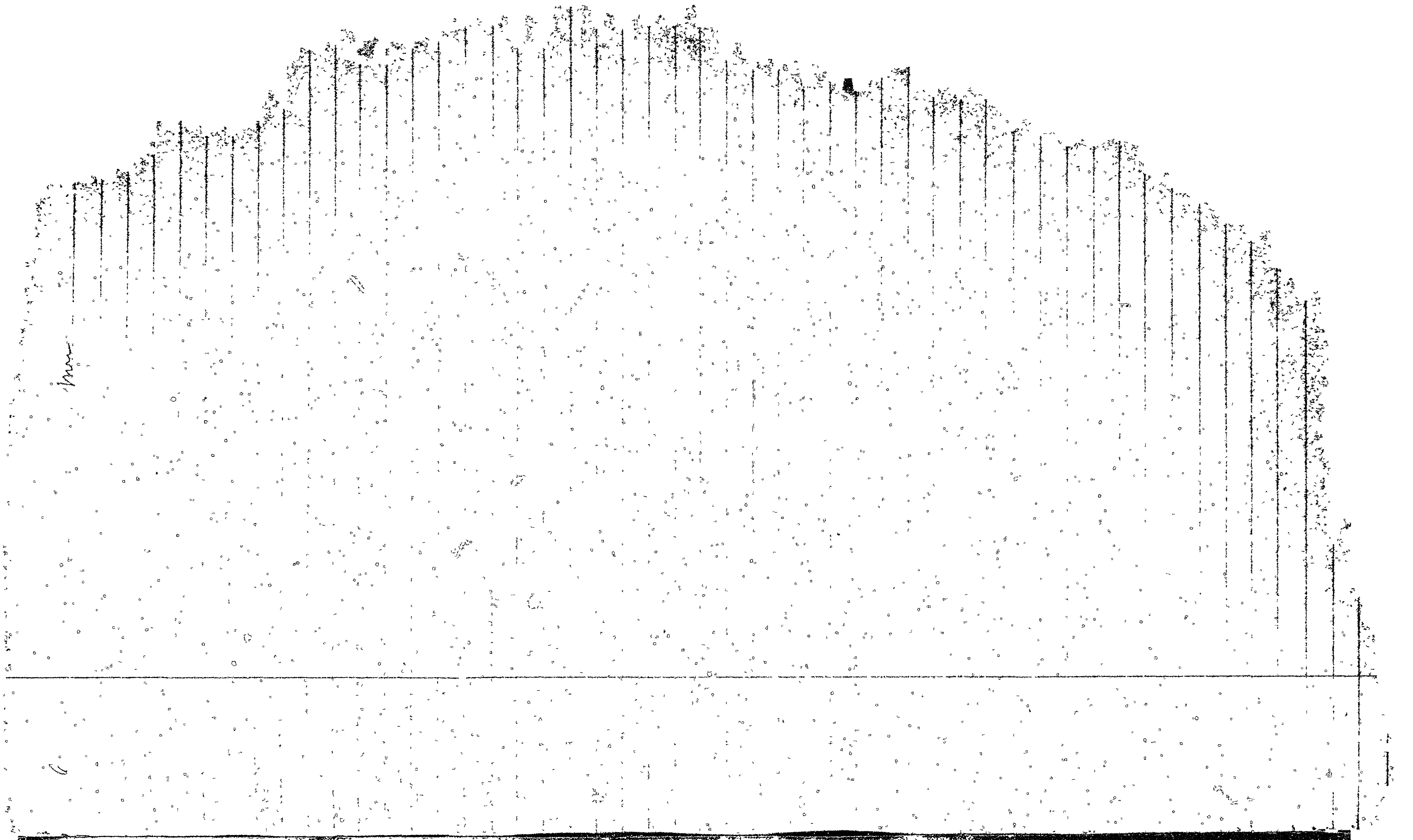

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Proclamation.

By the President of the United States.

Whereas the 4th Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of the United States declares that the United States shall guarantee to every State in the Union a Republican form of Government, and shall protect each of them against invasion and domestic violence; and, whereas, the President of the United States is, by the Constitution, made Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, as well as Chief Civil Executive Officer of the United States, and is bound by solemn oath faithfully to execute the office of President of the United States, and to take care that the laws be faithfully executed; and, Whereas, The rebellion, which has been organized by a portion of the people of the United States against the properly constituted authorities of the Government thereof, in the most violent and revolting form, but which organized and armed forces have now been almost entirely overcome, has, in its revolutionary progress, deprived the people of the State of Texas of all civil Government; and, Whereas, it becomes necessary and proper to carry out and enforce the obligations of the United States to the people of Texas, in decreeing them in the enjoyment of a Republican form of Government: Now, Therefore, in obedience to the high and solemn duties imposed upon me by the Constitution of the United States, and for the purpose of enabling the loyal people of said State to organize a State Government, whereby justice may be established, domestic tranquility secured, and loyal citizens protected in all their rights of life, liberty and property.

I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, do hereby appoint Andrew J. Hamilton, of Texas, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, whose duty it shall be, at the earliest practicable period, to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for convening a Convention, composed of delegates to be chosen by that portion of the people of said State who are loyal to the United States, and no others, for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution thereof; and with authority to exercise, within the limits of said State, all the powers necessary and proper to enable such loyal people of the State of Texas to restore said State to its constitutional relations to the Federal Government, and to present such a Republican form of State Government as will entitle the State to the guarantee of the United States therefor, and its people to protection by the United States against invasion, insurrection, and domestic violence: Provided that, in any election that may be hereafter held for choosing delegates to any State Convention as aforesaid, no person shall be qualified as an elector, or shall be eligible as a member of such Convention, unless he shall have previously taken and subscribed the oath of amnesty, as set forth in the President's Proclamation of May 29th, A. D. 1865, and is a voter qualified as prescribed by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, in force immediately before the first (1st) day of February A. D. 1861, the date of the so-called ordinance of Secession; and the said Convention when convened, or the Legislature that may be thereafter assembled, will prescribe the qualification of electors, and the eligibility of persons to hold office under the Constitution and laws of the State, a power the people of the several States composing the Federal Union have rightfully exercised from the origin of the Government to the present time.

And I do hereby direct— First: That the military commander of the department, and all officers and persons in the

Military and naval service, and and afoid the said Provisional Governor in carrying into effect this Proclamation, and they are enjoined to abstain from, in any way, hindering, impeding or discouraging the loyal people from the organization of a State Government, as herein authorized.

Second. That the Secretary of State proceed to put in force all laws of the United States, the administration whereof belongs to the State Department, applicable to the geographical limits aforesaid.

Third, That the Secretary of the Treasury proceed to nominate for appointments, assessors of taxes and Collectors of Customs and internal revenue, and such other officers of the Treasury Department as are authorized by law, and put in execution the revenue laws of the United States within the geographical limits aforesaid. In making appointments, the preference shall be given to qualified loyal persons residing within the districts where their respective duties are to be performed. But if suitable residents of the districts shall not be found, then persons residing in other States or districts shall be appointed.

Fourth. That the Postmaster General proceed to establish Post offices and post routes, and put into execution the postal laws of the United States within the said State, giving to loyal residents the preference of appointments; but if suitable residents are not found, then to appoint agents, &c, from other States.

Fifth. That the District Judge for the Judicial District in which Texas is included, proceed to hold courts within said State, in accordance with the provisions of the Act of Congress. The Attorney General will instruct the proper officers to libel, and bring to judgment, confiscation, and sale, property subject to confiscation, and enforce the administration of justice within said State, in all matters within the cognizance and jurisdiction of the Federal Courts.

Sixth. That the Secretary of the Navy take possession of all public property belonging to the Navy Department, within said geographical limits, and put in operation all Acts of Congress in relation to naval affairs having application to the said State.

Seventh. That the Secretary of the Interior put in force the laws relating to the Interior Department applicable to the Geographical limits aforesaid.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this 17th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty five, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-ninth.

(Signed) Andrew Johnson.

By the President

(Signed) William H. Seward.

Secretary of State.

A true copy:

R. O. Hussey.

Act. Secretary to the President

Proclamation By A J Hamilton, Provisional Governor.

To the People of Texas:-

Whereas, By the Proclamation of Andrew Johnson President of the United States of America, dated 17th June 1865, I have been appointed Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, with instructions to prescribe at the earliest practicable period such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for convening a convention composed of delegates to be chosen by that portion of the people of said State, who are loyal to the United States, and none others, for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution thereof: and with authority to exercise within the limits of said State, all the powers necessary and proper to enable such loyal people of the State of Texas, to restore said State to her Constitutional relations to the Federal Government, and to present such a form of State Government as will entitle the State to the guarantees of the United States therefor; and its people to protection by the United States against invasion, insurrection and domestic violence; provided that in any election that may hereafter be held for choosing delegates to any State Convention as aforesaid, no person shall be qualified as an elector; or shall be eligible as a member of such convention, unless he shall have previously taken and subscribed the oath of amnesty as set forth in the President's Proclamation of May 29th A. D. 1865, and is a voter qualified as prescribed by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, in force immediately before the first (1st) day of February A.D. 1861, the date of the so called ordinance of secession."

And whereas having accepted said appointment, it becomes my duty to make known to the people of the State the fact, and, as far as may be at this time, to advise them of the measures that will be adopted to carry out the great object of my appointment- the re-establishment of civil government in Texas, and to make known, as I understand them, the purposes of the general Government in relation to them- for the encouragement of the loyal citizens and as a warning to the disloyal,

Now therefore, I. Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do proclaim and make known:

1st. That preparatory to any election for delegates to a Convention, suitable persons will be appointed in the different counties of the State to administer the oath of amnesty as prescribed in the President's Proclamation of the 29th May, 1865, hereafter set forth, and to register the loyal voters according to instructions, which will accompany their respective appointments.

2nd. There being no civil officers in the State, and the great body of the people laboring under such disabilities as this time as to preclude electors therefor. Such State, District and County officers will be appointed as may be indispensable to the convenience and well being of the people the enforcement of laws, and the efficiency of the Provisional State Government during its existence.

3rd. Those persons who are in possession of the Books, Records, and papers pertaining to the several State and County offices will be charged with the responsibility of their safe keeping, and their delivery to those who may hereafter be appointed to fill said offices, and this will apply also to those of the Lower Counties of the Books, Records and papers belonging to the United States District Court within the limits of the State.

Continued to Page 192.

Executive Office.
Austin Texas.
Augst. 17. 1865.

Brig' General
E. E. Andrews;
Dr Sir,

I take the liberty to address you on a subject which I deem of very great importance. It has come to my knowledge that one William E. Jones, a Citizen of Brazoria County has been arrested by the military authorities of the United States, and is now detained by the said authorities, upon the charge of having killed a Colored man on the plantation of Mr E. H. Patton of Brazoria County.

I desire, General, to learn from you, or through you, what course the Military Authorities of the United States propose to pursue in reference to persons arrested for criminal offences. I am proceeding in accordance with the instructions of the President of the United States, to organize Provisional Civil Government throughout the State. I am appointing Judges of Courts having General Criminal jurisdiction; and I am also appointing all the Ministerial Officers necessary to the customary administration of the law by the Courts.

In my opinion it would be entirely safe to remit all offenders to the Civil Courts for trial. And I am deeply impressed, in view of the condition of the Country with the policy of doing so.

The people of this State look with great anxiety to the course which the Government of the United States will pursue towards them; and I am sure that the forbearance of the Military Authorities to proceed to trial in cases affecting life and liberty and a reliance upon the Courts and juries of the Country for the punishment of Crimes, would be hailed by the people as an earnest of a generous and paternal policy. Such a course would meet with my own hearty approbation. I would be much pleased, General, to hear from you on this subject; and if you deem it necessary, I would thank you to call the attention of Major Genl. Mower to this communication.

I am with great respect
Your Very Obedient Servant

Provisional Governor of Texas

Proclamation
By the
Governor.

Executive Office
Austin August 19. 1865.

Whereas by the Proclamation of the President of the United States of the 17th of June A.D. 1865, "for the purpose of enabling "the loyal people of Texas to organize a State Government &c" it is made my duty as Provisional Governor of said State "at the earliest practicable period to prescribe such rules and "regulations as may be necessary and proper for Convening a "Convention Composed of delegates to be chosen by that portion of "the people of said State who are loyal to the United States "and no others"; and whereas it is further provided in said Proclamation that "no person shall be qualified as an elector "or eligible as a member of such Convention, unless he shall have "previously taken and subscribed the oath of Amnesty, as set forth "in the Presidents Proclamation of 29th of May A.D. 1865"; and whereas it has been made known to me that many persons have taken said oath of Amnesty, whose subsequent conduct and declarations contradict the idea that they took said oath with the intent in good faith to observe the same

Now, therefore, for the purpose of providing the means whereby the people of the State, who desire to take said oath of Amnesty, and who are entitled to the benefit thereof under the said Proclamation of the President of the 29th of May A.D. 1865, may be enabled to do so with the least delay and inconvenience; and for the purpose of ascertaining who are the people "loyal to the United States," upon whom especially "and none others" is conferred the power to elect delegates to a Convention hereafter to be assembled;

I, Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do prescribe and proclaim the following rules and regulations, Viz:

1st The Chief Justices of the several Counties in the State are charged, Ex Officio, with the duty of administering the oath of Amnesty to the residents and Citizens of their respective Counties: and for the purpose of administering said oath and at the same time of making a Register of the names of loyal Citizens who shall be entitled to vote in the election of delegates to a Convention and a like Register of the names of those persons who may take the said oath of amnesty as a preliminary step to an application to the President of the United States for Special pardon, I hereby order that the Chief Justices in their respective Counties, and the Clerk of the County Court, and the Clerk of the District Court for the County shall Constitute a Board for the administration of said oath of Amnesty and the making of the said Registers. The Chief Justice and either of the Clerks above mentioned shall Constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business hereby committed to them.

2nd The Chief Justices shall furnish for the use of the Board as suitable blank books in which a Separate Register

Shall be kept of the names of loyal citizens who shall be entitled to vote in the election of delegates to a Convention, and another Register of the names of those who take the oath of Amnesty for the purpose of applying to the President of the United States for a Special pardon.

3rd The Chief Justices shall also provide for the use of the Board, printed forms of the oath of Amnesty, which shall be properly filled up with the name of the Party to whom the oath is administered, and signed by him when he takes the oath in the presence of the Chief Justice, to which fact the Chief Justice shall certify. This oath, so signed by the party shall be deposited in the offices of the Clerk of the County Court and kept by him. The Chief Justice shall also provide for the use of the Board, printed forms of Certificates, which shall be signed by the Chief Justice and attested by the Clerk of the County Court and delivered to the Party to whom the oath of Amnesty is administered to be evidence in his hands of the fact that he has taken the oath. These certificates shall state as the fact may be that the party, naming him, has taken the oath of Amnesty and been placed on the Register of his County as a Voter; or that being within one or more of the Exceptions to the general Amnesty offered by the President of the United States, he has taken the oath of amnesty as a step preliminary to his application to the President for a Special pardon.

4th The Board, hereinbefore constituted shall sit in every County at least one day in every week for the transaction of the business hereby committed to it. The Chief Justice shall give public notice, by posting notices at public places in all the precincts of the County, of the day on which the Board will meet. The Board may, if the members of the Board deem it proper or necessary to do so, sit on two or more days of each week for the transaction of business, always giving public notice of the days on which the Board will hold its Sessions.

5th None but those who are entitled to claim the benefit of the General Amnesty offered by the President of the United States, will have the right to have their names placed on the Register as Voters. Those who are embraced within any of the Exceptions to the general amnesty offered by the President, will be permitted to take the oath of Amnesty only for the purpose of enabling them to present their petitions to the President for Special pardons.

When Special pardons shall have been granted by the President to any such person and evidence of the fact shall be presented to the Board, the name of such person shall be placed on the Register of Voters, and a certificate of the fact signed by the Chief Justice and attested by the Clerk of the County Court shall be given to the party; and the fact that the party has received the President's pardon shall at the same time be noted on the Register.

6th In any case in which he may think proper to do so, the Chief Justice shall have the power to swear the party who desires to take the oath of Amnesty, to answer questions; and he may interrogate him touching his loyalty to the Government of the United States, and the extent with which he proposes to take the Oath. If any one shall refuse to be sworn, or being sworn, shall

answers to the questions which may be propounded to him give evidence of hostility to the Government of the United States, or of a purpose to oppose the measures which have been adopted in relation to Slavery, it will be the duty of the Board to refuse to administer the oath of amnesty to such person.

7th For the administration of the oath of amnesty, the registry hereinbefore required, and the Certificate to be delivered to the Party, the Board shall be entitled to charge the sum of one dollar in Specie, or in the paper money of the United States; one half of which sum shall be paid to the Chief Justice, and the remainder half equally divided between the other members of the Board.

8th For the Certificate provided for in the 8th Clause of these instructions, the Board shall be entitled to charge the additional sum of fifty Cents, in Specie or in the paper money of the United States, to be equally divided amongst the members of the Board.

9th All persons who have heretofore taken the oath of Amnesty before officers of the United States army, or army other persons authorized to administer said oath, and who desire to be registered as Voters in the Counties of their residence, shall present to the Board of Registration, hereinbefore Constituted, the evidence that they have taken said oath of Amnesty, and that they are entitled to be registered as Voters; whereupon it shall be the duty of the Board to place the names of such persons on the Register of Voters, and to give to the party interested a certificate of the fact signed by the Chief Justice and attested by the Clerk of the County Court, for which registry and Certificate the party interested shall pay the sums of fifty Cents, in Specie, or in the paper money of the United States to be equally divided amongst the members of the Board.

10th The blank books and printed forms necessary to be used in carrying into effect the foregoing instructions, will be a charge upon the Counties, to be paid out of the County Treasuries.

The officers herein named are enjoined to be careful and punctual in the discharge of the duties Committed to them; and the people are respectfully invited to go forward with alacrity and take the steps necessary to entitle them to aid in the restoration of of regular Constitutional Government to the State, with as little delay as may consist with the general good

Sec'y of State.

Pres't Gov'r of Texas

Executive Office
Austin Texas
August 22nd 1865

To Alexander Rafsy:

Sir

You are hereby constituted and appointed the General Agent of the present Provisional Government of Texas, to proceed to the Western frontier of said State, and to the City of Matamoras, and elsewhere if it be necessary, in the Republic of Mexico, to inquire into the pending transactions which the late rebel authorities of the State of Texas or any of them, have had with persons on the said frontier or with Merchants or other persons in the said Republic of Mexico.

You will ascertain whether or not there are any balances in the hands of any persons, merchants in Mexico or others in favor of the State of Texas or the late military Board or other Authority of the State of Texas; and in case any such balances are ascertained and admitted, you are hereby fully empowered to collect and receive the said balances, and to give receipts for the same in your name, as the Agent of the State of Texas which receipt so given by you will be a full acquittance of the parties to whom they are given from all responsibility to the State of Texas.

You are also hereby authorized to ascertain from the Major General Commanding the forces of the United States on the frontier of the Rio Grande, what account of Cotton, if any, belonging to the State of Texas, or purporting to belong to any of the late rebel authorities of said State, has come into the possession of the military Authorities of the United States. You will respectfully solicit from the Major Genl Commanding at Brownsville a Statement showing what amount of such Cotton has been seized or disposed of by the said Military Authorities; and you will report touching this matter to me as soon as may be practicable.

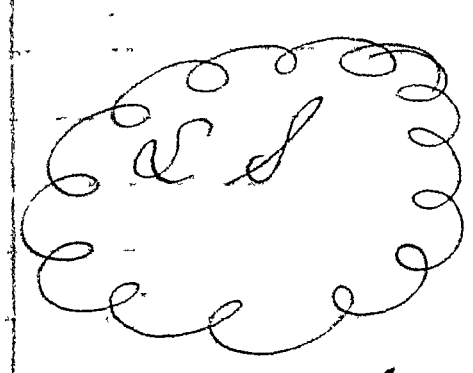
You are hereby authorized to substitute any suitable person to take possession of any Cotton or other property belonging to the State of Texas, which you may find on the frontier of the Rio Grande; and you will instruct any one so substituted to retain possession of any property that may come into his possession, until he receives further instructions from this Office.

You are authorized to use out of any money belonging to the State of Texas that may come into your hands such amounts as may be necessary to meet your proper expenses as Agent of the State; such amounts to be accounted for by you on final settlement of the business for-

your Agency. You will Exercise your best discretion in making remittances to the Treasury of Texas in Specie or in Bills of Exchange.

You will recommend to any merchants or other persons who have had business transactions of any kind with the late rebel authorities of the State of Texas that the Provisional Government is alone authorized to receive and dispose the dues and public property of the State and that Settlements made with any other person than yourself (so long as your Agency shall continue) will not be recognized as of any validity

Witness my hand and the Seal of the State of Texas:



By the Governor

Prov'l Gov of Texas

Secry of State.

Executive Office
Austin Texas, August 22/65.

Major General Steele
Commanding the forces
of the United States at
Brownsville Texas.

General.

I beg leave to introduce to your attention Mr Alexander Rafsy who visits Brownsville and Matamoras upon public business of importance. Mr Rafsy is a gentleman who enjoys my confidence. I have instructed him to make known to you the nature of his Commission. He will desire an interview with You on one of the subjects to which his agency relates. You will greatly oblige me by facilitating his business as much as may be in your power

I am, Sir, your very obdt Servant.

Prov'l Gov of Texas.

The two foregoing inclosed in one envelope and addressed to Alexander Rafsy, San Antonio, - handed to Mr L B Eastin with the request he would see that Mr Rafsy received them.

Executive Office
City of Austin
August 23rd 1865

To I M. Blackwell

Sir

You are hereby authorized and required to arrest or to cause to be arrested one Napoleon B. Pearce

late resident of the City of Austin Travis County Texas and a member of the Military Board of the State of Texas, by appointment of Pendleton Murrah, Late acting as Governor of Texas, Wherever the said Pearce may be found within the limits of the State of Texas.

You are authorized to call upon the Military authorities of the United States for such assistance as may be necessary in making the said arrest and also for a guard sufficient to prevent the escape of the said Pearce after his arrest; and for his safe removal from the place of his arrest to this City

You will bring the said Pearce with as little delay as possible to the City of Austin, treating him with humanity, providing for his personal Comfort, but taking necessary precaution against escape.

For the discharge of the duty now committed to you, this shall be your sufficient Commission and Warrant.

In Testy my hand and the Seal of the State of Texas, the date first above written

E. S.

By the Governor

Prov't Gov'r of Texas

Secry of State.

Executive Office
City of Austin Texas
August 22nd 1865

To any Officer in Command of the forces of the United States, within the State of Texas!

Sir

This will be handed to you by Mr I. M. Blackwell who is charged by me with the delicate and responsible duty of arresting Napoleon B Pearce, late an Officer in the Service of the Confederate States, and more recently connected with the rebel Authorities of the State of Texas, as a member of a Military Board which Controlled large sums of public Money. It is my wish to cause Mr Pearce to account for public Money which passed into his hands as a member of the said Military Board. If Mr Pearce can be found I hope you will furnish

Sir Blackwell with the force necessary to make the arrest and to bring Mr Pearce to this City

Your assistance in this matter which is one of very great interest to the State will be highly appreciated by me

I have the honor to be
with respect &c

Prov'l Gov'r of Texas

The foregoing were enclosed in one envelope and handed to Mr Blackwell This 25th August 1865.

Executive Office
Austin 24th Aug't 1865

Mr Edward Fennin of the City of Austin is hereby appointed Special Agent for the State to look after and take charge of all property belonging to the State of Texas of a personal character, and which is not now in the actual possession of the State or some authorized Agent thereof:— such as Cotton, Horses, Mules, Wagons and Harness— Arms and every other species of personal property which may be found in the hands or possession of any person or persons without proper authority of the present Provisional Government of Texas. He will demand from all persons in possession of any such property its immediate delivery to him and in case of refusal notify such persons that they will be held responsible for the same; in every such case reporting all the facts to this Office.

He the said Fennin is further authorized to employ such assistance as may be necessary to convey any such property to places of security for its safe keeping, and also such assistants under him as in his judgment the public interest will justify, in looking up and bringing to light such property. He is directed to report from time to time the result of his labors and that of his subordinates— stating what property has been found— the Condition, locality and possession of the same

This Authority will extend to any part of the State of Texas.

For this service the said Fennin is to be entitled to one fourth of all property which under this

authority is secured to the State of Texas, he paying his own expenses and that of his Subordinates and employees.

Given under my hand
and the Seal of the State
the date above written

L. S.

A. J. Hamilton
Prov'l Gov'r of Texas

Executive Department
Austin Texas
August 28th 1865.

Know all men by these presents that I. Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, have and by these presents, do hereby appoint Travis M. Swisher of Travis County An Agent for and in behalf of the State of Texas to proceed to what is known as "Indianola Calhoun" in Van Zant County, and in the name of said State, take possession of all the property belonging to said State, consisting of Salt works, Salt Kettles, Leading Troughs Tools, implements &c. conveyed to the State of Texas by L. B. Fitzgerald, Lee & Parker, Pitts, Heath & Pitts, H. H. Whatley, J. G. Harrell and Henry Castro.

And I further authorize and empower the said Swisher after taking possession of said property in the name of the State of Texas, to dispose of the same for cash to the best advantage and in the manner most conducive to the interests of the State; and in case a sale of said Property cannot be effected on reasonable terms, then I authorize the said Agent to lease the said Works with all the Kettles, Troughs and implements of all kinds belonging to the same, upon such terms as he can make with the parties who may be in lawful possession of the same, or any other persons as may be most advantageous to the State of Texas.

Hereby giving to the said T. M. Swisher as Agent for the State of Texas, full power and authority to sell convey and deliver or to lease during the pleasure of the proper authorities of the State, all the right, title and interest of the State in and to said Salt Works, Kettles, Leading Troughs, and implements of all kinds belonging to the State, and more other.

And I further authorize the said

Receipt to A. H. Abney, Agent of the Military Board for the State of Texas, in charge of Salt Works &c.

Received of A. H. Abney, Agent of the Military Board for the State of Texas, in charge of said Salt Works Army and all property of every kind belonging to the State of Texas, and all money in his possession belonging to said State, either State Warrants, Confederate Treasury Notes or Specie, that for the said Abney as Agent for said Military Board may have received either from the Sale of Salt or of any other property furnished to him as Agent by the said Military Board.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the State at the City of Austin, this 28th day of August A. D. 1865.

Pres't. Board of Texas

The above Receipt to Mr Smisher August 29th 1865.

State of Texas.
Executive Office
Austin.

Know all men, that reposing Special trust and confidence in the Patriotism, Integrity and ability of A. J. Harrison of the County of Tyler, by Virtue of the Authority Vested in me as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, I have appointed him the said A. J. Harrison, to the Office of Agent of the Alabama and Coshatta Indians residing in the County of Polk in the State of Texas; and I do also authorize him, the said A J Harrison to act as the Agent and Superintendent of the Muscogee Indians residing also in the County of Polk; and I authorize and empower him the said A. J. Harrison to sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded for and in behalf of all the said Tribes of Indians, and to take any legal steps that it may be necessary to take in order to protect the said Indians or any of them from the depredations of mischievous persons.

The trust herein committed to the said A. J. Harrison shall continue during the existence of the present Provisional Government of Texas unless sooner revoked. This Appointment is also made upon information that the said Tribes of Indians desire the Appointment of an Agent to protect them and their interests; And the said A J Harrison agrees to render his services to the said Tribes and to receive such Compensation as the Legislature of Texas when it shall hereafter convened may think proper to allow

Witness my hand and the
Seal of the State of Texas this
29th day of August A D
1865.

By the Governor

Prov'l Gov'r of Texas

Secretary of State.

The above handed to Jas Harrison August 29th 1865.

Executive Office
Provisional Gov't of Texas
Austin 7th August 1865.

To
Messrs E M Pease, Joseph Spence and Lorenzo Palm,
Gentlemen.

You are hereby
appointed and empowered to act as Commissioners to investigate as far as may be in your power the present condition of the State Treasury. The amount and character of assets on hand, - the disbursements made of public funds belonging to the State of Texas so far as the same can be ascertained from the Records and Vouchers on file in the offices of State Treasurer and Comptroller of public Accounts - embracing the period since the passage of the so called ordinance of Secession (1st February 1861)

You will particularly note any disposition or appropriation of Moneys or Securities of the State not in conformity to the usages and laws of the State and what if any and the character of Moneys or State Securities are unaccounted for.

To execute the purpose of your appointment, You have authority to enter the Vault of the State Treasury by such means as you may think proper to employ (the Key being lost or stolen) and to enter such other Safes or places of deposit as may be supposed to contain assets of the State.

In the discharge of the duty hereby imposed upon you such assistance as you find necessary will be furnished you in the way of Clerks and Accountants, to be selected by you.

And you are also authorized to call before you for examination and information any and all persons whom you may suppose have knowledge which you can make available; and to require full and explicit reports from such persons as have had charge of either of said Offices or any department thereof, or of any other Office or pretended Office having charge of any portion of the public funds of the State.

When you shall have completed your labours -

You will at your earliest convenience report to this Department.

By the Governor
James H. Bell
Secretary of State

Prov'l Gov'r of Texas

Executive Office
City of Austin Texas

Know all Men by these presents that reposing Special trust and Confidence in the integrity and ability of Judge George W Paschal of Travis County I, Andrew J Hamilton, by virtue of the power vested in me as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, have appointed and do by these presents appoint him the said George W Paschal, a Special Agent for the State of Texas to proceed to the City of Washington in the District of Columbia for the purpose of prosecuting at the Treasury of the United States certain coupons of the United States Texas Indemnity Bonds which said Bonds were issued about the 1st day of January Anno Domini Eighteen Hundred and fifty one' to wit, amounting to the sum of Twenty three Thousand, nine hundred and seventy four dollars which said coupons have remained in the Treasury of the State of Texas until this day and are the property of the State of Texas, never having been transferred to any person. The said George W Paschal is authorized to demand in behalf of the State of Texas payment of the said coupons this day delivered to him as Agent of the said State at the said Treasury of the United States. And the said Paschal is authorized to receive from the said Treasury the amount due to the State of Texas upon the said coupons, and to execute any acquittances or vouchers that may be demanded by the Treasurer of the United States as evidence of the payment of the said coupons to the State of Texas.

In testimony whereof I hereto sign my name and affix the Seal of State of Texas this 31st day of August A.D. 1865

L. S.

By the Governor

Secretary of State

Prov'l Gov'r of Texas

City of Austin Texas.
August 31th 1865—

To
His Excellency
The President of the United States.

Mr President

I take the liberty to address you on a subject of much interest to the State of Texas. One George W White a native and former citizen of the State of Tennessee, who has resided for some years in this City was engaged during the late rebellion as an Agent of the Confederate Government in furnishing Beef in large quantities to the Military Authorities of the Confederacy. In this Agency Mr White as I have good reason to believe, acted a dishonorable part towards the people of Texas

About the day of Mr White received from a Military Board, Created by the rebel Legislature of Texas, and composed of the rebel Governor Mr Murrah, and two other persons, about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars of the United States Texas Indemnity Bonds and Coupons to be used by him the said White, in the purchase of Medicines, hospital Stores &c. &c. for the use of the State of Texas. Mr White's receipt for these bonds and Coupons is in my possession; but he has never rendered any account of the use made by him of the said Bonds and Coupons. On the Contrary about the time of my arrival in Texas, Mr White left the City of Austin Clandestinely and has quit the State of Texas as I am informed. I have reason to believe that he is now in the State of Tennessee or in the City of Washington. I have caused suit to be instituted in the name of the State of Texas against Mr White with a view to compel him to account for the said Bonds and Coupons.

I have no doubt that Criminal proceedings might properly be instituted against Mr White, but the Courts are not securely organized and there has been no Grand Jury in Session to prefer an Indictment

Under these Circumstances in order to enable me to Compel Mr White to account in a matter of so great importance, I most earnestly request Your Excellency to issue an order to the proper Military authority in the State of Tennessee or Elsewhere to cause the arrest of Mr White and his transmission to the Military authorities in this State, to the end that he may be delivered to me.

It is not my purpose to deal harshly with Mr White, but simply to compel him to an account. Such action on the part of Your Excellency, as I here solicit would have a most salutary effect by teaching all Speculators, that they cannot escape

the people and embezzle the public funds with entire impunity.

This letter will be delivered into your hands by my Friend Judge George W Paschal to whom I beg leave to refer you for fuller information concerning the subject of this Communication

I am Sir with great respect Your humble Servant

Pres. Rep of Texas

Executive Office
Austin Texas, 21st August 1865.

Mr President

It is now more than a month since I wrote to you from Galveston upon my arrival at that Port; and about a month since my arrival here, the Capital of the State. I found the great mass of the people wrecking with anxiety and some uneasiness my arrival. They had been for nearly two months not only without Government, but ignorant it seems as to the designs and purposes of the Government. This can scarcely excite surprise to know it is remembered that the people of Texas have been drawn the beginning of the War systematically shielded from all truthful information in regard to public affairs, and who were disposed upon to some effect by the most absurd stories told them by their late leaders prior to their flight to Mexico, whether most of them have gone) to escape the consequences of their manifold Crimes.

Immediately upon my arrival in the State at Galveston, I issued a Proclamation, a copy of which I herewith enclose which I am happy to say have, as I have abundant reason to believe, the most happy effect in allaying the fears and anxiety of the public mind and producing in their stead a hopeful and cheerful temper. My invitation in said Proclamation to the loyal men from different sections of the State to meet me at this place and confer with me upon the present and future interests of the State has been responded to with unexpected alacrity; so much so that I have great satisfaction in announcing that the work of reorganizing the Provisional State Government has proceeded with a rapidity highly satisfactory. Notwithstanding the immense territory over which our people are scattered and the entire absence of mail facilities, I have been visited by deputations of loyal men from more than Eighty Counties riding on horseback in many instances

four hundred miles, who furnished me the names of tried and loyal men for County Officers, delighted with the prospect of something like Civil Government to supercede the long and terrible military despotism under which they have suffered so cruelly. They bring me generally a good account of the feelings and wishes of the people. The masses wish to do right and will in the end but they have scarcely had time to break the fetters which have so long shackled their minds. They have not yet had opportunity to learn the extent to which they have been made the dupes of the men whose lead they followed in the late rebellion. But this information is being rapidly dissemenated even in the absence of mails, and although the Malcontents — late Slave-owners as a class, and leading deceased politicians are exerting a desperate energy to retain their hold upon the people, it only wants a little time to insure their final emancipation. The work is now going on most hopefully, but would be greatly accelerated by the aid of appliances to which I will call your Excellency's attention presently.

It was the concurrent and unanimous opinion of all the Union men in the State, without an exception so far as I have heard, that it would not do to hazzard calling a Convention at as early a day as has been done in most of the other States lately in rebellion. There were many reasons for this In the first place it will necessarily require two or three months to enable the people to avail themselves of the oath of amnesty to qualify them to vote as prescribed in Your Proclamation

We are without mail facilities to enable the people at once to be put in possession of correct information touching the policy of the Government, and its Wisdom and prosperity. We have but few Newspapers and they are with two or three exceptions the organs and instruments of the late military despots, and filled full of the Views of Treason, restrained in language by wholesome fears, but covertly attempting to engender in the public mind distrust of the Government and its friends. There is so far no U S Courts in operation here and consequently no proceedings instituted against even the most flagrant Sinner, to insure a proper Sense of the crime of Treason in the public mind and impose a prudent restraint upon the conduct and language of the evil disposed, especially those who are excluded from general amnesty. Thus situated, and being sustained in my judgment by the United Voice of the Known men of the State I have deemed it necessary to organize a more formal Provisional Government than would under other circumstances have been necessary.

The actual condition of the Country seems to demand the organization of Tribunals of Justice, both Civil and Criminal. Crimes of rifle and private property and individual rights in a great measure disregarded. This condition of things could only be remedied by Military authority or by the enforcement of Law. The Military power would in most cases where it is present be able to correct the most glaring evils, but in a very large majority of the Counties no military force is present. Besides it is most grateful to the people to be permitted once more to look to the laws of the State for protection from wrong and for remedies for rights long denied them. And nothing in my judgment is better calculated to win them back to a full appreciation of the Paternal Kindness and Justice of the Government.

first indispensably necessary to create Officers of Election in each County for which an Officer to administer the oath of amnesty to the Citizens and make a Register of loyal men authorized to vote & be registered to a convention - and Assessors & Collectors of Taxes to raise a revenue to meet Current expenses and provide the means to defray the expenses of a convention when called. I intended but little more trouble to provide Officers for the administration of Justice and this the people being where desired and are now more than willing to be taxed to defray the expenses. Actuated by these Considerations I have to organize the Provisional Government of the State I believe to the satisfaction of every good man in the State and without one dollar of expense to the Government of the U. S. Even the Secretary of State will not look to the U. S. for his Salary unless for political reasons it should be deemed proper that he should be thus paid. I trust the course thus far pursued will meet your Excellency's approval as it does that of the loyal people of this State. I cannot say at what time it may be prudent to call a convention but hope for early indications of correct public sentiment that will justify it. Be assured that no unnecessary delay will happen. But to facilitate such a state of public feeling I most respectfully but earnestly urge the importance of holding in motion the Federal Courts in this State. This was directed to be done by your Proclamation of the 17th of June last, but so far no appointments have been made of Marshalls and District Attorneys. We have judges for the two Districts of Texas, Judge Watrous for the Eastern District and Judge Duval for the Western District, both of whom have remained loyal to the Government of the United States

Judge Watrous has not been in Texas or in the South since the rebellion occurred, but has resided during the whole time I believe in the State of New York. Judge Duval remained in Texas for a time after the rebellion commenced, but was finally driven from the State and from his family on account of his loyalty and was an exile until the war terminated. His loyalty and integrity are well known to the Hon Joseph Holt Judge Advocate General of the U S. I say unhesitatingly that no better or truer man lives in the Union than Judge D. There can be no objection to him. It is true I heard when I was in Washington in June last, that certain parties were representing that he had held Office under the Confederate Government. This is unqualifiedly false. For a short time before he was forced to leave his home in Texas he was compelled (being poor and destitute of any mean of supporting a numerous family) to write as a Clerk in the Land Office of the State of Texas in order to procure bread for his family, being for the time being cut off from his salary as Judge. Said Clerkship is not and never was an Office under the State, and was of course wholly disconnected with the Confederate Government.

There is not one Loyal man in Texas who will not in all things endorse Judge Duval.

As to Judge Watrous he has for many years had a very strong party arrayed against him in Texas, and who have sought by memorials to Congress for his impeachment to dismiss him from the Bench.

and I have reason to know that some of those who are hostile to him, deprecate the idea of his assuming again his functions as judge of the Eastern district of this State. I have no possible interest personal or concern in the quarrel between Judge Watrous and his accusers and without personal knowledge of the facts, leave the matter to be disposed of in the future in a legitimate way. I confess I cannot see how Judge Watrous can be disposed of otherwise than by a successful impeachment or Congressional legislation abolishing his District In the mean time I cannot concur with those who, however honest in their views - prefer no organization of the Federal Judiciary in our State, than that Judge Watrous should be permitted to resume his duties. Parties who are not now in Texas and who have not been since the rebellion occurred are hardly in a condition to appreciate as those of us who are engaged in the work of reorganization, the necessity of the known

I deem it of vital importance that these Courts should be set in motion at once. No more potent machinery can be invoked to restrain and punish the only persons from whom serious opposition is to be anticipated In fact it is the only really effective agency to humble incorrigible traitors. Even those who have fled to Mexico leaving property behind will have opportunity through friends to convert personal property & effects. Besides, although it may not be the policy to proceed to prosecute and confiscate generally the property of those who are excluded from general amnesty, yet it is easy to understand how very different the conduct and influence of that class may be when they are not only liable to such proceedings, but Courts ready to act and vigilant Officers watching their movements. A movement towards the confiscation of the property of a few of the leading rebels - although never consummated, would have a tremendous effect upon the entire class. I feel all this much more strongly than I can express and pray your Excellency to appoint the proper officers and direct the immediate organization of the Courts.

I beg also most respectfully to call your Excellency's attention to the Condition of the Freedmen in this State and the great necessity existing for efficient means to prevent the many wrongs and cruelties being perpetrated upon them

It gives me pleasure to say that some of the late owners are pursuing a humane and wise policy; admitting their freedom and hiring their labor for fair compensation; but it is also true that many of the late owners, I fear a majority - pursue a very different course They seem to be disposed to visit upon the poor Negro all the bitterness which they feel towards the Government for making him free, and in Districts remote from Military forces openly deny the negroes freedom - insist that the Presidents Proclamation of emancipation is but a military order which has spent its force, and the laws of Congress upon the subject unconstitutional and void &c &c. and exercising the most rigorous restraints upon the freedom of the Negroes. It is undoubtedly true that many freedmen have been killed by their late Masters and very many more greatly abused. If the Freedmen's Bureau is to be a permanent thing, then it is most important to the interests of the Freedmen and to the well being of Society that proper Officers be

ance duet to take charge of the matters pertaining to it in Texas.

I must also call your Excellency's attention to the fact that we are entirely without mail facilities. I am aware that we cannot effect much in that way until an appropriation by Congress shall have been made, but a few lines of greatest importance being established, would be a great relief and I trust that the Hon' Post Master General will be able to do this much for our relief.

I beg also to call your Excellency's attention to the matter of recommending applications for special pardon. I have recommended probably thirty out of one Hundred & fifty — and may have satisfactory evidence is presented me act favorably on others which I have so far refused. My rule is to recommend in every case where I am well satisfied that the party was never a rebel (and as you know there are many such cases) or has dooly repented, and wishes and intends in perfect good faith to help repair the wrongs inflicted upon the Country. But in case where I have serious doubts as to the future action of the applicant, or where his sins have been enormous I have promptly refused. These men of course will make their representations at Washington & many of them by the aid of money will be able to present very respectable endorsements and recommendations I trust however that they will at least be postponed until the final establishment of Civil Government in our State, to the end that they may not be relieved and enfranchised to become active opposers of the Government and its friends at a time when we can least afford it.

I cannot close this communication without doing myself the pleasure of bearing testimony to the kindness courtesy and friendly assistance of the Military Officers of the Government since my arrival in Texas. Indeed on reaching New Orleans on my way to Texas I was placed under many obligations by the kindness and assistance of Major Genl Sheridan He promptly furnished me transportation to Galveston and issued orders to Major Genl Granger then in Galveston to furnish me transportation and an Escort to this place — all of which was done by Genl Granger in the most prompt and obliging manner. I have received assurances from Major Genl Wright now commanding the Department of Texas & from his subordinate Generals assurances of their readiness to aid me in every legitimate way compatible with their duty in re establishing order and Civil Government in Texas

In conclusion I will say to your Excellency that none knows better than Yourself how impossible it is for any one occupying any position to escape malice, hate, envy and opposition even from quarters whence it should not come. I feel confident in the support of the loyal men of Texas and the generous support which my humble efforts may deserve at your hands

Wishing God's wealth to sustain you in your great labors

I have the honor to be Your Excellency's
obdt servant

Pres Govr of Texas

To His Excellency
Andrew Johnson
President U.S.

Executive Office
Austin Texas 30th August 1865

Sir.

I avail myself of the opportunity, in the absence of mails, of the visit of my friend Hon. George W Paschal of this City to Washington to write you upon a subject of much interest to the State of Texas. Be the first pleas permit me to introduce to your acquaintance Judge Paschal, who is one of our most distinguished and loyal Citizens. I commend him to your courtesy and friendly consideration of which he is eminently worthy

When the rebellion occurred in Texas there were remaining in the Treasury of the State about Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars in amount (Say Eight Hundred Bonds of the denomination of $1000 each) of the U S Texas Indemnity Bonds issued about the 1st January 1851.

By an act of the Legislature of Texas passed 16th December 1857 these Bonds, before they could be negotiated were required to be endorsed by the Governor of the State Since the rebellion all of those Bonds and interest Coupons attached thereto about one hundred and forty Thousand dollars in Amount have disappeared from the State Treasury.

They were in some instances sent to Europe and to Mexico ostensibly for the purpose of sale to raise money to aid in carrying on the rebellion. Some of those sent to England by a lucky chance were tied up by a proceeding in Chancery after being negotiated and are now in a condition to be reclaimed by the State at a comparatively trifling loss, for which purpose an Agent will soon be sent by the State to England. These were among the earliest of the Bonds used or attempted to be used by the rebel State Government

Later in the rebellion and when all pretences of legitimate use of the means of the State had given place to the most shameless abuses and finally to open robbery, other amounts of said Bonds were taken possession of by irresponsible persons and sold or hypothecated for a few cents on the dollar and are now held by such Speculators, as in most instances, knowing the facts were willing to deal in them These Bonds being upon their face payable to bearer, I will not now discuss the Question as to how far our Statute referred to is notice to Non-Residents of the State, or in other words whether they (the Bonds) still maintained the character out of the State of commercial paper, notwithstanding the State. It is enough for the present to say that very many may most of those Bonds, were purchased by the parties now holding them with a full knowledge of our Statute, not Constructive but in fact; and that in all probability by giving to the State a little time a very considerable portion of them may be reduced again to her possession. Surely equity will fully endorse what I now suggest viz; that no Bond or Interest Coupon of the fifteen Emissions not put in market by the State prior to the rebellion and endorsed by the Gov of said State anterior to the 1st of July 1861 be paid at the United States Treasury without the Consent of Texas, for at least a sufficient time to enable inquiries and efforts on her part to be made to reduce to possession as many as possible of those of which she has been robbed. There may possibly be small amounts of Coupons now in the hands of honest holders who come legitimately by them

[illegible] Governor Have The goodness to cause the Seal of State to be affixed hereto which will be immediately Returned to you. I have the honor to be Your Excellencies Most Obedient Humble Servant

Executive Office
Austin City, Sept 1865

To Thomas S. Collins, Sheriff of Travis County — Greeting

You are hereby authorized, empowered and Commanded to proceed without delay to the Residence of George W White in this City and Seize and take into Your possession Madeira Brandies, or other Liquors which you may find in Boxes, Casks or Barrels in or about said premises (said Liquors said to be stored in the Cellar of his residence) and remove the same to the State Capital and Store Room, taking an account of the same and making return thereof together with a Statement of the execution of this order.

You will take with You one or more respectable Citizens to be present during your proceedings of the same and at the same time treat said Citizens with the Courtesy and civilities of the House.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the State this 5th day of September 1865

[illegible]

Executive Office
Austin Texas 31st August 1865

Sir.

It becomes my duty to inform you that I hereby revoke the Commission issued to you on the 15th Inst as Chief Justice of the County of Burleson.

You will therefore upon the reception of this cease to exercise the functions of said Office and deliver the Books, records and papers pertaining to the same to T.H. Mundine who has this day been Commissioned your Successor

Your Obdt Servt

To
Hon A.L.A. Keirp
Caldwell

Provl Govr of Texas

Executive Office
Austin 31st August 1865

Hon Geo Klappenbach,

I have this day appointed you Chief Justice of Comal County vice place of Wm Mur-chison who declines the Office.

I have revoked the Commissions issued on the 24th Inst to the following parties to wit; C.J. Groos County Court Clerk — Adolph Galle, Assessor and Collector and Conrad Myer, Treasurer, and have commissioned in their stead. — Louis Kessler, County Clerk, Theo Just Sch County Assessor & Collector and Emil Von Stein Treasurer. You will therefore qualify the three Gentlemen last named for the Offices to which they have been appointed.

Very Respectfully

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provl Govr of Texas

Executive Office
Austin Texas 5th Sept 1865—

To Williams Robbs, Esq of Williamson County Texas.

Know ye that reposing Special Trust and Confidence in your prudence, ability and integrity I hereby commission you and empower you Specially to arrest forthwith and bring to this City one E. G. McQueen and Williams of the firm of McQueen & Williams, both of the County of Williamson, to answer to a charge of appropriation to their own use and embezzlement of goods and property belonging to the State.

You will also take charge of whatever Goods Wares and Merchandize you may find in possession of said parties or either of them and place the same in the possession of some responsible orders in the premises

Herein fail not and make return to this Department as to how you have executed this trust;— for all of which you will be promptly compensated.

Given under my hand and the Seal of State the date above written

Provl Govr of Texas.

By the Governor
Joseph Spencer
acting Secy of State.

Executive Office
Austin Texas 5th Septr 1865—

Know all persons by these presents, that reposing Special trust and confidence in the honesty capacity and energy of M. Hall of Harrison County and Sam F. Moseley of Marion County I have this day appointed them and each of them Agents for the State of Texas to act jointly or Separately as shall seem to them best, to discover and reduce to possession property belonging to the State of Texas of Whatever Kind or description Such as Cotton, Wool, Horses, Mules, Wagons, Oxen, Goods, Wares and Merchandize or other property and to demand from all and every person or persons now or hereafter in the possession of any Such property, the delivery of the Same to them the said Hall & Moseley or either of them, ~~they~~ or to Such person or persons as they or either of them may Commission as Agents under them or either of them, unless the party in possession has Authority to hold Such property from the present Provisional Government of the State of Texas.

And the Said Parties (Hall & Moseley) or either of them or the deputies of them or either of them acting under written authority, will diligently enquire into all conversions and appropriations of any of such property by any persons or persons whether the same be a private citizen or public officer.

They will particularly enquire into and ascertain what amount, if any, of any such property marked or branded in the brand of the State or late Military board of Texas may have been taken possession of by the military authorities of the United States and report the same to this office, together with whatever other proceedings they may have from time to time under this authority.

The Said Parties or either of them are hereby authorized to appoint Subordinates under them or either of them with full power to act as herein directed and whose duty it shall be to report directly to them or either of them, the Said Hall and Moseley.

For the services to be performed by them as herein provided they when acting jointly or either of them when acting separately shall be entitled to one-fourth of the property recovered by them or by proceedings founded upon information furnished by them or either of them as aforesaid.

In testimony of all which I hereunto set my hand and Seal of State this 5th day of Septr 1865.

L. S.

By the Governor

Pro'l Gov of Texas

Secy of State.

Department of State
City of Austin, Sept 6. 1865

Hon. J. J. Mar-court

Dr Sir

Your letter of the 4th Inst came to hand this morning, and was immediately laid before Gov. Hamilton. I am instructed to say in reply, that the course you took in the defence of the Freedmen to whom your letter refers, was eminently proper and your view of the law of the Case entirely correct

It is true that our former laws, furnished free persons of Color, with Masters for certain offences, and theft was one of them. But those laws are no longer applicable to the changed Condition of persons of Color in this Country. Under the former laws free persons of color were under many disabilities

They formed a class, between Slaves and White men, but in respect to Civil and political rights they were much more ill

nearly in the condition of slaves Thier of White men. Their disabilities were owing to their color. All this is now changed. One result of the War is the freedom of those who were formerly Slaves; and although they and those who formerly occupied the scarcely more favorable position of free persons of color are not placed upon an Equality, in respect to civil and political rights with White men, yet freedom, as the political result of the war must draw to it certain rights, not before enjoyed either by Slaves or free persons of Color. In respect to the punishment of Crime, men of color whether formerly bond or free, must be placed upon the same footing as White men; and the Emancipation Proclamation of the late President of the United States made effectual by the military power of the Government, so as actually to secure freedom to all men of Color must be held to be equivalent to efficient legislation by the State. And to mitigate the punishment of Crimes committed by persons of Color, to the extent of placing all men in this respect upon an equality

The Governor has just received Your Dewees' letter on this subject and requests You to say to Your Dewees, that he will find his answer in this letter to you, and that he will be effected to conform his official actions to the views herein expressed.

(Signed)

Yours respectfully
Jas H Bell
Secy of State

Proclamation
By The
Governor.

Executive Office
City of Austin Sept 5. 1865

Whereas, the exhausted condition of the Treasury of the State makes it necessary to proceed to the collection of Taxes at the earliest day possible, in order to meet the current expenses of the present Provisional Government, and also to defray the expense of a Convention when the same shall assemble:

Therefore I. Andrew J. Hamilton, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do ordain and proclaim as follows:

1st The Assessors and Collectors for the respective Counties in the State shall between the tenth day of September and the first day of December A. D. 1865, proceed to assess a direct Ad Valorem tax of twelve and a half cents upon each hundred dollars value of property, real and personal, except such property as may be exempt from taxation by the laws in force prior to the second day of March A. D. 1861.

2nd The Assessors and Collectors shall also within the time mentioned in the foregoing section, assess a poll Tax of one dollar for each male person of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, resident in their respective Counties; Freedmen, idiots and persons persons Non Compos mentis excepted

3rd The Assessors and Collectors shall also assess and collect within the the time mentioned in the first Section of this Proclamation, license and occupation taxes for the current year 1865, from all persons subject thereto by the laws xxxx in force prior to the second day of March A.D. 1861, and in all things respecting these taxes, the said Assessors and Collectors will be governed by the said laws

4th The list of taxable property which the tax-payer is required to furnish to the Assessor, shall contain a discription of all the taxable property held by the party in his or her own right or as guardian, Executor, Administrator, Agent, or Attorney, on the 1st day of July 1865; and the said list shall be verified by the oath of the person returning the same.

5th The Assessment rolls required to be made out by the laws in force prior to the second day of March A.D. 1861, shall be made out and returned to the Office of the Clerk of the County Court in each County, and to the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts in this City on or before the 1st day of January A D 1866.

6th Each person owning or claiming property situated in any other County than that in which he or she resides, may render the same for Assessment to the Assessor and Collector of the County where he or she resides and the value of property situated in any other County than that in which the Assessment is made, shall be determined in the same manner as if the property were situated in the County where the Assessment is made

7th The Assessors and Collectors will collect the direct ad valorem tax between the 1st day of December A.D. 1865 and the 1st day of February A.D. 1866.; and for all of said Tax remaining unpaid on the 1st day of February A D 1866, they shall proceed immediately thereafter to levy upon and sell property in accordance with the laws in force prior to the second day of March A D 1861

8th The Taxes shall be paid in Specie or in the Treasury Notes of the United States; and the Assessors and Collectors shall Specify in their returns, the kind of Currency in which the tax was paid; and they shall pay into the Treasury the same descriptions of Currency as they received

9th Upon all property situated in the County where the Assessment is made, Each County tax will be assessed and collected as has been or may be ordered by the County Court of the County; and upon all property situated in other Counties than that in which the Assessment is made, there shall be assessed and collected a County Tax Equal to one-half of the State Tax.

10th In making up their Assessment rolls and in performing all the duties of their Offices, the Assessors and Collectors will use the forms which were in use by their predecessors prior to the second day of March A.D. 1861.

11th Property shall not in any case be assessed at a reduction of more than Thirty-three and one-third per centum upon the assessed value of the same discriptions of property in the year 1860: and in every case the present value of the property to be assessed, the

...e instituted as soon as may be practicable

2d. In the discharge of all the duties appertaining to their offices, the different Tax Collectors will be governed by the laws in force prior to the second day of March A.D. 1861 - so far as those laws are modified by the decision of this Proclamation or any hereafter to be modified by instructions from me or from the Constitution of State when the same shall be ...

Fourth, To insure the faithful execution of this Proclamation it is distinctly understood by every one, that I shall forfeit to the Treasury of the United States.

Provisional Governor Texas

Secretary of State.

Proclamation
By the
Governor.

Executive Office
City of Austin, Sept 8. 1865.

Whereas the most deliberate reflection has convinced me that to open the Courts of the County, at the present time, for the general collection of debts, will be greatly detrimental to the people;

And Whereas, various acts have been passed since the second day of March A.D. 1861, by assemblies of persons claiming to exercise legislative powers in this State, in reference to the time of holding the Courts in the several Judicial Districts of the State, and also changing the form of some of the districts; which acts may be productive of confusion and irregularity in the action of the Courts, unless some general rule be prescribed.

And Whereas, it is necessary to prescribe some regulations respecting the Attorneys and Counsellors at Law who have heretofore been licensed to practice in the Courts of the State, and to define their duties and disabilities.

And Whereas, the former laws of the State for the punishment of offences committed by Slaves and free persons of color are no longer applicable to the changed condition of all persons of color in the Country, and it is necessary in the absence of State legislation on this subject to define for the guidance of the Courts of the State, in the administration of the Criminal law, the rights which persons of color, being free

are entitled to have accorded to them;

Therefore, I, Andrew J. Hamilton, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, have determined and do order and proclaim as follows;

1st. The several District Courts will proceed when their organization, with the trial of all criminal causes in conformity with existing laws, under the provisions of this Proclamation so far as persons of color are concerned.

2nd. Suits for the determination of rights of every kind, including suits for the collection of debts, may be instituted, provided the parties instituting them shall comply with the laws of the State and of the United States regulating the institution of Suits and the issuance of process; and in all Suits involving the title to Land, and for the trial of the right of property heretofore levied on by virtue of any Writ of Execution, Sequestration or attachment, and for injuries to the person, including actions for false imprisonment and for Slander; and in actions for the recovery of damages for trespass upon property, all courts having jurisdiction, may proceed to final judgment and execution; and in all actions of debt where the plaintiff shall be entitled, under existing laws, to the Writ of injunction, Sequestration or attachment, it shall be the duty of the Courts having jurisdiction, to issue such writs and to make any order that may be necessary and in conformity with laws in reference to the Sale of perishable property levied on by virtue of any Writ of attachment or Sequestration; but the District Courts shall not proceed to final Judgment in actions of debt, until this portion of this Proclamation shall be revoked.

3rd. All acts which have been passed by any assembly of persons in the City of Austin, calling themselves the Legislature of the State of Texas in reference to the time of holding the Courts in the Several Judicial Districts of the State and in relation to the Form of Districts, will, as far as Consideration of public policy and convenience, be respected and observed by the District Courts.

4th. Upon the organization of the District Courts in the respective Counties, all persons who claim the right to practice as Attorneys and Counsellors of said courts, shall be required by the presiding Judge to take the Oath of Amnesty prescribed in the Proclamation of the President of the United States of the 29th of May A.D. 1865: the oath shall be taken in open court; and it shall be the duty of the presiding Judge to examine all Attorneys and Counsellors under oath, to ascertain whether or not they are within any of the exceptions to the general Amnesty offered by the President of the United States; and if any one shall appear to be within any of the said exceptions (and this point the Judge shall Summarily decide) he shall not be permitted to practice as an Attorney or Counsellor in the Courts until he shall have received pardon from the President of the United States. If any one heretofore licensed to practice as an Attorney shall appear not to be within any of the exceptions to the general Amnesty, and shall take the oath of Amnesty in open court, he shall be entitled to practice as an Attorney and Counsellor in all the Courts in which his former license entitled him to appear; and the facts shall be entered upon the Minutes of the Court, under the direction of the presiding Judge, and the Clerk of the Court shall give to the party a certificate

under the Seal of the Court, that he is permitted to practice as an Attorney and Counsellor in the Courts of the State according to the terms of his former license, which Certificate shall entitle the party, receiving it to appear in the Courts of the State without further Examination or Question.

5th. All persons of Color must be first sworn an equal with White men in respect to the punishment of crimes and when they are tried by virtue of sentiments heretofore prosecuted and are found guilty, the judgment of the Court must be the same as if the defendant were a white person.

6th. The Justices of the Peace throughout the State are empowered to hear and determine all matters within their jurisdiction and to render final judgment and award Execution in conformity with existing laws.

Provisional Governor of Ga.

Secretary of State.

Address
To The
People of Texas

Executive Office
City of Austin, Sept 11. 1865

Fellow Citizens

It is now more than a month since I reached the Capital and commenced the work of organizing Provisional Civil Government for the State. It was my purpose, very shortly after my arrival in this City, to address you deliberately and in a Spirit of frankness in reference to our public affairs, that you might be informed of my views concerning both the present and the future: but a perostrating illness, and the pressure of public business which could not be delayed without injustice to those who have come forward-most every part of the State to greet me, have postponed this address until the present time.

I have returned to Texas, after an absence of three years, with conflicting feelings, which I shall not attempt to disguise, not yet fully to express - feelings of deep regard for the people of Texas, of gratitude for honors and confidence formerly bestowed, of solicitude for their welfare, of strong condemnation of the course which a majority of them have pursued for the last five years, and of deep seated anxiety concerning their future political action. I have not returned amongst you with any feelings of malice in my heart towards any man. Claiming for myself no higher standard of rectitude than I am willing to allow to others, and feeling that I am as liable to err as any of you I yet have a firmed consciousness that I have not merited the obloquy which has been industriously and unscrupulously heaped upon my name, by the press and the Politicians of Texas during the last four years. What, in a few words, are the facts? For the last ten years I have observed the growth of the disunion sentiment in the Southern States, and the unremitted efforts of certain political leaders to fill the hearts of the people with bitterness towards the Government of the United States. I combatted the efforts and teachings of these disunionists with what ability I possessed, never concealing my political opinions, or hesitating, on proper occasions, to express them.

In the year 1857, I presented myself to my fellow citizens as a candidate for a Seat in the Congress of the United States. I visited the people, and discussed with frankness and candor, the issues before the country, then rapidly assuming portentous magnitude. After full and repeated avowals of my opinions, of my abhorrence of the doctrine of Secession and of the designs of the disunionists and of my uncompromising devotion to the Union of the States, I was elected by the people of the Western Congressional District to represent them in the Congress of the United States. In my place in Congress I was guided by the same principles which I had publicly declared before my constituents, and upon which I was elected. Yet before the expiration of my term of office, so fully had the disunion leaders and the corrupted corps of the State succeeded in poisoning the minds of the people, and so completely their suspicions and perpetuities usurped the place

of peaceu and justice in their proceeds recent records, that the whole transactions of extent, of decay, of cruelty, of violence, of this Union were fabricated in the effort to feed terms adequate to the oppression of any alleged failure and neglect. I witnessed some former days, when in Congress in the dismay of the year 1848, to find a Connection elected by a majority of the Voters of the State, quitting their Seat proceed to the work of secession. I perceive these arising from Office, in the person of the people by whom he had been chosen the old hero who led the gallant band that achieved the Independence of Texas on the field of San Jacinto, who had more than once shed his blood in the cause of liberty, and who had devoted twenty-five years of a glorious life to your service.

Unfortunately great personal respect for, and gratitude to him also dominated their Convention, so deeply was I impressed with a sense of their mischievous election and folly, that encouraged by the support of a few of my fellow citizens who were even more bold enough to declare their devotion to the Union and animated by that love of liberty which I fondly hope will ever identify I denounced this Convention as a usurpation and its acts as treasonable. The war ensued. I felt that the Cause of the Union was the Cause of truth of justice, of humanity, of Constitutional liberty. Yet I could bear to draw the sword against the people of my native and adopted State - against neighbors and friends: and I remained a peaceful spectator of the revolutionary contest until I was forced to decide whether I would submit to have my property and constitutionally acquired property and my Conscience forcibly violated, or take my place in the ranks of the defenders of the flag of my Country.

I made my choice, but in a moment of passion, resentment but in the love of right and in the light of duty. I left my home perfectly well assured that those who remained behind, dearer to me than life, would hear my name cheerfully with the of vituperation which unscrupulous men would heap upon it.

I do not overstate the case, fellow-citizens, nor do I recur to these things now, either for the purpose of reproaches or recriminations, but because I feel that a clear and truthful view of the past is due to myself and that I owe to you and is necessary to a just comprehension of your duty and mine.

I have ever been willing to accord to motives of those who gave their support to the Cause of Secession, honorable and patriotic motives though I consider all to say that their perversion of judgment filled me with constantly increasing astonishment. And I think that all right minded men of that State, ought now to be able to see that they were deceived, and that they were enlisted in the support of ambitious and unscrupulous men, having for their own aggrandizement by the establishment of Government upon false principles. I think too, that every man who is not wholly under the influence of prejudice and resentment must be able to see by this time, nay, must have seen long since, that the Secession leaders were in their efforts to the judgment and intelligence of the people, but on the contrary, practised the grossest fraud and deception in order to get it, both in order to bring about Secession and during the continuance

of the war. The designs of the Republican party in the Northern States were systematically misrepresented. The laws on the subject of the Slave Trade passed during the Administration of a Southern President, the patriotic Monroe with such Southern Statesmen as Crawford, Calhoun and Wirt in his Cabinet, were designedly denounced as a standing and insupportable insult to the people of the South, and their repeal loud & clamorously demanded. And why was this. Was it in the hope that the repeal of those laws could be obtained? Certainly not; for it was as absolutely certain that those laws could not be repealed as that the American people could ever be persuaded to renounce the right of treat by Slavery. The repeal of these laws was demanded by the Agitators of the South, that the people might be taught that a refusal to repeal them was a good cause for dissolving the Union. So the morning the Secession orators would tell you that the Union ought to be dissolved unless you were permitted to take your Slaves to Territories where a few widely separated streams and fountains, with scanty fringes of wood, scarcely serve to break the monotony of arid and almost illimitable deserts; and in the evening they would tell you that the Union ought to be dissolved unless you were permitted to bring more Negroes from Africa to cultivate the rich Valleys of the Mississippi the Brazos and the Colorado. You were told that the Republican party were not only resolved upon the destruction of Slavery, but would make you the Slaves of your former Slaves; and this at the very time that the Hon. Charles Francis Adams the present representative of the Government of the United States at the Court of St James, then a member of the Congress of the United States, was proposing to restore quiet to the Country by the admission of New Mexico as a Slave State, and by an Amendment to the Constitution providing that the Constitution should never be amended so as to abolish Slavery in any State in which the institution then existed, until the Amendment should be ratified by a Slave State, and should be concurred in by every State in the Union.

These same leaders who persuaded you to Secession, successfully accomplished the destruction of the Democratic party at Charleston, in order to secure the defeat of Mr Douglas, and cause the election of Mr Lincoln to the Presidency. And when Mr Lincoln was elected, they unblushingly claimed that his election, the inevitable result of their own machinations, was conclusive evidence of a settled purpose on the part of the people of the North to destroy your property, to destroy you & your most sacred rights in the Government and to deny you your Constitutional rights: and in accordance with the programme of Mr Yancey, they seized upon the auspicious moment "to fire the Southern heart and precipitate the Cotton States into a revolution."

It gives me no pleasure, fellow Citizens, to recur to these things, and I only do it in the hope that you may at last come to see that your Chiefs are not clear of the conspiracy which have resulted from the attempt to overthrow the Government.

When the impartial historian shall truthfully relate the whole progress of the Slavery agitation in this Country, posterity will be amazed at the patience of the people of the South; for as little as you may be prepared to believe it now, history will show that at every step in the agitation, the South secured whatever she demanded, until she set upon the final pretension of a right to extend Slavery into the Territories,

read have it stricken by Congressional Action.

The question of the power of Congress in relation to Slavery came into the first Congress that Assembled after the adoption of the Constitution, and was settled in accordance with the views of Southern statesmen: indeed, there was at that time no difference of sentiment in the Country below the Subject.

In the year 1819, Missouri sought admission into the Union with a Constitution providing for Negro Slavery. Her admission was opposed because of this feature in her Constitution, & this was the true beginning of the Slavery Agitation. And it is to be remembered, that at that time the statesmen of the South with great unanimity, regarded the Claims of Slavery to be viewed, as a fit subject for Compromise between the two Sections of the Union after the Angry and Heralding Controversy, both in and out of Congress, the Contest in relation to the admission of Missouri was settled by providing in the 8th Section of the Act of admission as follows: "In all that Territory ceded by France to the United States under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes north Latitude, not included within the limits of the State contemplated by this act, Slavery and involuntary Servitude otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted, shall be and is hereby forever prohibited."

This was the famous Missouri Compromise.

The opposition to the admission of the State with a Slavery Constitution came from the North, because the question was openly declared to be one of political power between the two Sections of the Union, and a few Sagacious Northern Statesmen saw the ominous consequences involved, and were inclined to take issue with the Claims of Slavery to be indefinitely extended. The South proposed the compromise. The measure received the vote of every Senator present from the Slave States, and the votes of a majority of the representatives from the South. It also received the approbation of President Monroe and of every member of his Cabinet, and was long regarded as a final Settlement of the question of the extension of Slavery.

The next Contest upon the subject of Slavery, in the Congress of the United States, worthy of note, arose upon the presentation of petitions in the House of Representatives, praying for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia. These petitions were fiercely assailed by the Southern Representatives. They insisted that the right of petition did not extend to the subject of the abolition of Slavery, and that the petitions ought not to be received. They contended that Congress could not Constitutionally abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia, notwithstanding the express grant of power to Congress, by the Constitution, to exercise "Exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever" over said District. In this contest the South prevailed, by the passage of a resolution that all petitions relating in any way to Slavery or to the abolition of it should be laid on the table without being read.

It is well known that the annexation of Texas was a measure undertaken and consummated in the interest of Slavery, under the lead of Mr Calhoun himself. And let it not be forgotten, that

The Annexation resolutions involved a solemn recognition of the Missouri Compromise, because in deference to the principle of that Compromise, the Slave Territory of Texas north of the parallel of thirty six degrees and thirty minutes north latitude was made free territory by the terms of the resolutions.

In the year 1850 when the excitement upon the Subject of Slavery was more intense and embittered than ever before, the South insisted that in the organization of territorial governments for New Mexico and Utah, the people of said territories should have the right to legislate upon the Subject of Slavery; and in the bills organizing the governments for these territories, it was expressed "that "the legislative power of the Territory shall extend to all subjects of legislation, which "Lawful, Slavery included, subject only to the Constitution of the United States." And it was also provided in the Bills, establishing governments for these territories "that "When admitted as States, they shall be received into the Union with or without "Slavery, as their Constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission" Now when it is remembered that a portion of the territory of New Mexico and the whole of Utah, lies north of the parallel of thirty-six degrees, thirty minutes north latitude it will be clearly seen that these bills were a violation of the principle of the Missouri compromise.

The aggressive Spirit of Slavery, now began in good earnest to manifest itself, and this Spirit, bleed in itself, was seized upon by the ambitious politicians of the South, as the means of accomplishing one of two objects- either to control the Government in the interest of Slavery, for all time to come, or, failing in this, to subvert the government, and to establish a Southern Confederacy in which Slavery should be the great and controlling interest

In the prosecution of this design, in the year 1854, when Congress came to establish territorial Governments for Kansas and Nebraska, the South again insisted that the Missouri Compromise should be wholly disregarded; and the bill establishing Governments for these territories contained the same provisions concerning the legislative power of the territorial Governments, and their admission into the Union with or without Slavery, as had previously been incorporated in the Bills establishing territorial governments for New Mexico and Utah. Mr Douglas was the champion of the South in these contests of 1850 and 1854; and every one remembers the terms that were given to this process throughout the whole South and the general desire that was felt for his elevation to the Presidency.

The Kansas and Nebraska Bill provided that States with Slavery, formed out of territory extending as far North as the United States had over Forty Seven, might be admitted into the Union; and the principle established by these Bills was that the people of a territory should have the power to legislate on the Subject of Slavery as well as every other rightful subject of legislation. But it went further. It became apparent that the exclusion of legislation into these territories from the Northern States would give the Anti-Slavery Sentiment a preponderance in the Territorial Legislatures, the South changed her ground, and declared that Congress should take affirmative action for the protection of Slavery in these territories until the people formed a State Constitution, thus departing from the principles established by themselves in the New Mexico, Utah, Kansas and Nebraska Bills, that the legislative power of the territorial legislatures should be extended to every rightful subject of legislation.

Every one of this nation will see that this
kind of measure is the worst that can be adopted for the purpose of
abating the spirit to submission to all the demands of slavery,
or to submission to those demands, in which latter event the worst
spirit of slavery would be appealed to, to take the final step of
subjecting the whole, & the people of the north prepare to yield
to the demands of the slaveocracy. Such, if not earlier, at least
in every contingency in Congress involving the question of
rights appertaining to or growing out of it, there legislation has ever
the South dared to go. Their leaders had discovered what the measure,
after the Congressional measure of 1850 already alluded to, we found
that the principle settled and adopted in the acts creating the
territorial governments of Mexico and Utah, together with the
fugitive slave law (with the concession to the South) were finally
to govern the question of slavery. But as before stated, this finality
was again disturbed four years afterwards by the repeal of the
obnoxious restrictions.

Good as if to prove to the world that there was
principle upon which the South could or would not, & some which could
long meet the ever increasing demands of slavery, the doctrine of
the right of the people of the territories to determine the question of
slavery for themselves, was resisted the moment it was ascertained
that the people of the North could not unite in the Settlement of
the new territories. The truth was slavery was manifesting its
true character - its tendency to resist free government and in
its blindness and selfishness, madness grew more positive to another
without regard to consistency, seeming to exert what ever the govern-
ment or people of the United States could control if they would the
inexorable laws of population and subsistence, and finally demon-
ding through its chosen chiefs, at the Charleston Convention in
1860 what was known to be unreasonable and unjustifiable, with
the deliberate purpose of making the refusal of the demand a
pretext for the overthrow of the government.

Here was the consummation of a long continued and
elaborate conspiracy against the government, the real object of which
was confided to few but carried on under cover of pretended wrongs
to the South, and by constant and persistent efforts to keep alive
agitation upon the subject of slavery, and by every appliance of
falsehood and deception, excite and inflame the public mind beyond
the reach of argument or reason. It was not made known to you,
fellow citizens, that this conspiracy not only involved the government
of the United States, but the existence of the principle of free gov-
ernments as well.

It is now well known by every intelligent man who
has had access to the sources of information, that the new government
was intended when firmly established, to be in the hands of and under
the control of a favored few - the wealthy - an aristocracy based
upon slavery - a government established by the blood and suffering
of the poor many which would deny the equality with the wealthy
neighbor.

You ought to know how constantly it was said during the rebellion, that the failure of republican government was established by the success of the rebellion — that it was matter of astonishment that the people could have believed in the perpetuity of republican government.

They insisted that government ought to be based upon property, and its power represented and controlled by the holders of property. The burdens of government were for the many — the poor — the offices and blessings for the few, the wealthy. It is not necessary to remind you of the fact, that this theory was acted upon in carrying on the war. Who bore the heaviest burthen of the day, and who were the favored class? In whose favor were passed Acts of Exemption from military service made, and upon whose head or pretended race this fell?

You had been educated, however, to believe in Secession as a legal and Constitutional right. That the Union was a compact between Sovereign and independent States, creating a mere agency for said States and that being free to enter into the compact, they were equally free to withdraw from it. The reason given for the right assumed was, in fact, an unanswerable argument against it. This position is a perversion of reason and of law. When parties are free to contract and capable of contracting they are held firmly to the stipulations of their agreement. It would be a poor answer in a court of justice for a party to say, I am not bound by my agreement, I was a free man when I entered into it, and am, therefore, free to abrogate it. The answer would be, "Because you were free and capable of contracting and did so contract, you are bound." If this is the rule in Courts of justice in relation to agreements and contracts, respecting the ordinary affairs of men, how much more strongly should it be enforced in respect of the most solemn contract by which men can bind themselves. A people each agreeing with each and all the others to the formation of a government for the necessity, peace and prosperity of all, is a compact, a covenant and agreement which in reason, in law and in conscience, owes its character and claims to any other earthly obligation. And this was precisely the character of the obligation which the people of Texas deliberately assumed when they entered the Union.

You have been told that the government of the United States was not a government adopted by the people of the different States, but a league or compact signed by the States. This is false in theory and in fact. The very language of the Constitution of the United States shows unmistakably what was intended to be the character of the government.

The very first sentence of that instrument will forever successfully answer all that has been or will ever be said in contravention of its emphatic declaration "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." Such was the language of Washington and his compeers who framed the Constitution and submitted it to the American people, and commended it to their favo

[illegible] "We the people of the United States," did these words and sentiments [illegible] the people of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

disgust at a violation of solemn covenant and plighted faith so flagrant and shameless, would have characterized the unbroken opinions of Christendom.

But it is it true that Texas surrendered none of her original rights of sovereignty by her annexation to the United States?

Before she entered the Union, she was recognized among the nations of the earth as a sovereign government—she negotiated with other governments treaties of amity and commerce; raised armies and fitted war; granting letters of marque and reprisal; emitted bills of credit; and did all other things which an independent sovereign might do. But when she entered the Union she expressly agreed that she would yield up all those attributes of sovereignty; they were transferred from her to the United States—she ceased to be thenceforth an independent sovereignty in herself, to become a part of another sovereignty.

I have already illustrated the folly of the doctrine of the right of States to secede—take one example more. If Tennessee had the right to secede from the United States, it must of course be the right to secede from her. Let us suppose this done by the United States; and that she then declared Tennessee foreign and hostile to her, and she will therefore have no intercourse with her, social or commercial—that the citizens of Tennessee shall not have the right of passage across the territories of the United States—how would they have in that State cut themselves into rebellion to illustrate the beauties and virtues of the doctrine like unto fruits of the harvest of life seeds so industriously scattered and cultivated; and yet the gravamen can never be legitimately urged as a right of the United States from the doctrine of the right of a State to secede.

I am aware that many will consider this waste of time, but I feel assured in my mind that very many of the citizens of Texas are still clinging to the false teachings of the people from whom we broke to consummate for their participation in a rebellion brought with so many lasting privileges; and because also, I feel compelled by a sense of duty to warn you against the delusions and pitfalls of secession, the cruelty of which no child can realize for the future.

While I deeply sympathized with the people of any section, because of the ruin which I know they must be preparing for themselves, and regretted since made no effectual efforts in time to open their eyes to the truth, I could not go the length of participating in any rebellion which originated in falsehood and ambition, and which knew for success, no higher spirit than to abuse the mercy and to excite them to madness, injustice, and violence. Others had their rights, but Spirit believe, that secession were no one of them; that it was the first step in rebellion and consummate a conspiracy, which had else never been attempted to sever the Union from the cruel and fatal consequences, and finally

under its present difficulties, or be rescued by those who are willing to grapple with untoward circumstances, and who have greater faith in mind and muscle than you have. Suffer me to suggest that the counsels of Providence are wiser than the counsels of men; and that it cannot be impossible that an intelligent people possessed of a fruitful soil, and blessed with a salubrious climate, in these Southern States, will be unable to achieve the results which usually flow from such advantages. Let me conjure you, fellow-citizens, to accept cheerfully the responsibilities of your present situation. Let energy, intelligence and probity be the standard of respectability in future. Let services to the community of which you form a part, and to the country, be the passport to influence and renown. Let us all, not forgetful of the past, but profiting by its stern teachings, bend our energies and our talents to the work of restoring prosperity to the country. Let us do this and my faith is strong that we will soon recover from the exhaustion which war and the incidental destruction of property has produced. Let us do this and the asperities and heartburnings which now exist, will give place to that contentment which results from a consciousness of duty discharged. Hope will take the place of discouragement. The love of country will return to animate our hearts: and the United States, united by feelings of brotherhood, as well as by fiscal and general laws, will progress with rapid strides, to the realization of the highest hopes of the patriot and philanthropist.

Fellow citizens I perceive that this address is likely to attain too great a length. I shall therefore be as brief as possible in what remains to be said. You will bear in mind that before I reached the State, and assumed the discharge of my duties as Provisional Governor, the civil government of the State, had become wholly disorganized. The functionaries who had been elected in their declarations of devotion to the people, did not have the manliness or grace to stand out. Their forces and their influence to the preservation of order. Your late civil and military leaders abandoned you when they could no longer safely plunder you or oppress you. They fled from the country and left you without any means of protection, to meet the consequences which they had not the courage to share. I was unavoidably delayed in reaching the State, and you were, for some weeks without government of any kind. The good behavior of the great body of the people under that novel and trying circumstance is sufficient proof that the violence and disorder which disturbed the country during the continuance of the war arose, owing to the pernicious influence of your leading men and the constituted authorities of the country. When I reached the Capital it presented the appearance of a city that had been wrecked by a public enemy. The Capital was unoccupied and open to the sky; its walls defaced, the public records and libraries

and is now resistant and is anxious to renew his allegiance to the government and assist to the utmost of his ability in repairing the injuries inflicted upon the country, and will in good faith sustain its policy — in all such cases it will afford me pleasure to recommend that pardon prayed for. Those in arrest should remain until the oath is renewed, and in all cases where I am convinced that the party does not come with the true spirit of devotion to and respect for the government and its authority and policy, I shall unhesitatingly refuse to recommend.

There are, fellow citizens, a few subjects of paramount interest to which I desire very briefly to call your attention. First perhaps, in importance is the change which has taken place in the condition of the negroes of the South. On this subject I feel that I should be wanting in the discharge of my duty to you if I failed to speak plainly and respectfully. There are still I regret a great many persons who earnestly desire to be loyal to the government of the United States, and to support in good faith the Constitution and laws, who yet indulge the hope that some system of compulsory labor will be restored to the South. Fellow citizens, it may be assumed as certain that in no form, and in no shape or form, can it be restored. There are those who say they do not desire the restoration of slavery, but who think that laws should be passed to compel specific performance of contracts for labor. Such laws would be contrary to the genius of free government. Compulsory labor in the performance of a contract, coupled nevertheless, by voluntary service and not being for crime, amounts to qualified slavery. More than this compulsory labor in the performance of contracts is in its nature, an impracticable thing, and incompatible with the freedom of the colored. Let me earnestly advise your fellow citizens, to receive the truth, that slavery has passed away. The first gun that was fired at Sumter at the flag which proclaimed this institution even its death. Slavery no sooner began aggressive in its spirit. It had triumphed so often in its conflicts with its opponents, that it became imperious and impregnable. Rather than abandon it or any limitations on its pretensions, it defied to mortal combat the government and people whose protection it had grown so great. It set up a government the purest representative of itself, false, arrogant, overbearing, unscrupulous, shameless. This government was not only engaged unsuccessfully upon the government of the United States, but with an inattentive knowledge that the whole civilized world, with an instinctive knowledge that the whole civilized world, holding possessions of the South as natural enemies, it spread over them, in the midst of invasions of every kind, laws which their instincts, conscientious impressments Laws &c &c. which it practiced the most cruel slaveowners, and the abo

glorious Oyea shouts echo forwardly clear into Liberty, by means of
Democratic Laws, and a stipendiary system of electric Real and Pre-
sented real Compass the fierce wiles Labor into comatick—fractured, whose
Some Clerk favorite was to be kept out of the way of gunpowder.

The struggle between Slavery and the government
was a death struggle. The government Democrats, Slavery clinging
the closer. What remains to us to give it a decent burial. Having
done this we will then address ourselves to the patriotic duty of
feeding the wounds inflicted upon us by the terrible war out of
which we have safely come.

In my judgment, fellow citizens, we should make
up our minds to put the question of slavery in this State finally
to rest by incorporating in our State Constitution which our Convention
shall assemble, a provision that it shall not hereafter exist in this
State. Many will say if slavery be indeed dead what the necessity
of any Constitutional provision on the subject? The general
government, fellow citizens, will naturally regard the action
of the States with a jealous eye, until this question shall
be finally disposed of. The government of the United States
is not weak. It needs no help from the State of Texas to
settle the question of slavery. But if the State exhibits an
unwillingness to recognize the truth that slavery no longer
exists, by some conclusive action on her part, the government of the
United States may think proper to keep us in a State of
probation, until we recognize the true state of the case in
such manner as will be satisfactory to that government. My
earnest advice to you then, fellow citizens, is to waive any
punctilio that may still have a lodgment in your minds on
this subject, and when you and your delegates to a Convention
which I hope soon to be able to call, instruct them to put
this question finally to rest, by a Constitutional provision.
By so doing we could the sooner recover our just influence in
the councils of the Nation. In the meantime let us recognize
the fact, that the negroes are free, and are entitled to have
rights accorded to them which they could not enjoy as slaves.
I have by proclamation, instructed the Courts to place them
upon an equality with white men in respect to the punishment of
In doing so I have proceeded upon the idea that the freedom of
all men of color, as the political result of the war must necessarily
draw to it certain rights not before enjoyed under our Laws, either
by slaves or free men of color. I regard the Emancipation Proclamation
of the late President of the United States made effectual by the Mili-
tary power of the government, so far as actually to secure freedom to all
men of color, no equivalent to express legislation by the State, mitigating
the punishment of crimes committed by persons of color, to the extent
of placing all men, in this respect upon an equality.

I am also of opinion, fellow citizens, that the
State ought, by express legislation, to provide for the admissibility
of the testimony of persons of color, in Courts, in all cases, subject
only to the rules corresponding to the testimony of white persons. This
is not unobjectionable, in principle and is important as a matter of

policy. If we exclude the testimony of negroes in our Courts of justice, the United States government, through the Agency of the Freedmen's Bureau, or in some other army, will provide Courts for the trial of all causes in which they are parties. If we receive their testimony in the State Courts, and administer justice to them as to white men, the general government will not perhaps, think it necessary, to engraft any machinery for their protection upon our present system. I said the reception of their testimony was not objectionable upon principle. There are many ignorant persons who suppose that if a negro swears to anything in Court, judgment must be rendered accordingly — This is not so. It is not so in the case of the testimony of a white man. All trials of questions of fact are by a jury. The jury will in all cases, judge of the credibility of the witness, whether white or black. If they think he tells the truth, they will find a verdict accordingly. If they do not credit his testimony, their verdict will not be affected by it.

To deny to the freedmen this essential right of all freemen, is to deny to him the freedom which the United States has proclaimed, and which, be assured whatever we may do, will be accorded to him.

I issued a proclamation a few days since, limiting for the present, the action of the Courts, in cases for the collection of money. I feel that this is a matter of great delicacy and I think it proper for me to state frankly, the considerations, which influenced me to issue this proclamation. I am opposed, upon principle, to any legislation interference between the debtor and his creditor. I think the prosperity of a country depends greatly upon the facility with which debts may be collected. But the present circumstances of this country, are very extraordinary. The people have suffered immensely from the burdens of the war. There is but little money, as yet, in circulation in this State. Property is of but little cash value. These things being so, creditors will not be disposed to receive property in payment of debts, and the sale of it under execution, would work a very great hardship upon the debtor. I think the disbursements by the army and other causes, will soon bring money within the reach of the people, and that settlement of debts can be made. I feel assured that if the Courts were open now for the rendition of final judgments in actions of debt, it would be almost impossible to prevent the Convention, when it assembles from authorize legislation, that would have the effect to impede the collection of debts for a long time to come, whereas if a brief indulgence is extended to debtors now, the Convention will meet under circumstances that will ensure proper action in this all important matter. I advise the people then, to prepare for the payment of your liabilities as speedily as possible. When the Convention shall assemble, I hope to see it require legislation that will insure the prompt collection of debts. The future, prosperity and the development of the country

occasion this.

You are anxious to know when a Convention will be called. I know that many persons are of opinion that the call of a Convention ought to have been one of your first acts as Provisional Governor. I did not think so, and what is more important, the President of the United States, whose representative I was, did not think that a Convention could be called until the people had qualified themselves to vote by taking the oath of amnesty. After organizing Provisional Civil government throughout the State, which is now nearly completed, I think it important that the public mind of the State should be directed to the great questions upon which the Convention will be called to act, before the people elect their delegates. If we proceed in this most important matter too hastily, fellow citizens, our work will be imperfectly done. Let us act wisely: and in order to act wisely let us deliberate upon the subjects which will engage the attention of the Convention, and upon the wise solution of which will depend our prosperity for many years to come. Of this much hereafter, you may be assured: I shall not delay the call of a Convention one day after I think it can be safely done. I am anxious to see you resume the government and shall do, in as much as any one, when we are once more in the Constitutional path from which we unwisely departed

Fellow citizens, I have addressed you frankly. I hope you will ponder well what I have said. The times demand candor and plain dealing on the part of public men. That man who contents himself with criticising the errors of others, and lamenting the unhappy condition of the country, without putting his own hand to the work of restoration, and without proposing any remedy for the evils which an unhappy war has entailed upon us, is not, in my judgment doing the duty of a patriot. He requires not much talent to find fault. And I know there are so many lingering causes of discontent as now exist in the country, it does not require much ability to arouse them into opposition to the efforts of those who may be striving to ameliorate or remove existing evils. Let me warn you to scrutinize closely the conduct of those who may attempt to persuade you to array yourselves in an attitude of hostility to the policy of the government. To do the best thing that can be done, is the wisdom of statesmanship. To do nothing because we cannot accomplish that which would be most agreeable to us, is not wisdom but folly. The government of the United States, fellow citizens, has no hostility to your interests. The President of the United States, and his advisers, form their elevated position and wide view of all of the interests of the country, are better judges than you or I can be, of the general policy which will restore quiet and prosperity to the country. Let us not espouse factious opposition to the National policy, but let us go to work in good faith and with hopeful hearts, to restore to Texas the blessings of regular constitutional government and we will

I have be in a position to exercise our proper influence in shaping the general policy of the nation. We have passed through a terrible ordeal, but we have saved that which is beyond all price, a government based upon enduring principles, strong enough to protect all its citizens and professing within itself the means by which it can be adapted to the wants of an increasing population. The war has brought want and desolation to many a hearth and fireside. but the Supreme Ruler of the Universe has beneficently provided a balm for every wound. The discharge of duty, the effort to repair in the future the mistakes of the past, and above all, the conviction, if you can attain it, that the ways of Providence are higher than your ways, will serve to steal from disappointment its bitterness, to reconcile you to your actual condition, and perhaps lead you, at some future time, to rejoice that your wishes have been overruled.

I am fellow citizens with sentiments of kindness and respect

Your obedient servant

Proclamation by the Governor.

Executive Office
City of Austin, September 25th 1865

Whereas on the 8th September (inst) I issued a proclamation in which, among other things, I directed that in actions of debt the several District Courts of the State shall not proceed to final judgment: and that "the Justices of the Peace throughout the State will proceed to hear and determine all matters within their jurisdiction, and to render final judgment and award execution in conformity with existing Laws."

And whereas, from information and reflection I am satisfied that in many instances, in action of debt in the District Courts, great injury would result to parties from the loss of testimony by lapse of time, if not permitted to proceed to final trial — and being also satisfied it will operate unerringly and unfairly upon a very large class of citizens, to permit the forced collection of debts under a Justices jurisdiction.

Now, therefore, I do hereby order and proclaim the following changes in said Proclamation of the 8th September, inst, viz: The District and Justices Courts throughout the State, may proceed to final judgment in actions of debt, but no executions shall issue upon said judgments rendered in either the District or Justices Courts until otherwise ordered. In all other respects the said Proclamation of the 8th inst remains unchanged, and its provisions will be observed. And whereas, in many of the Judicial Districts of the State the regular period for the holding the Courts or some of them has passed, or will have passed before a proper organization of the District or County is had. Now therefore I do hereby order and direct that the several District Judges in the State may appoint and hold special terms of their respective Courts in Counties where from any cause there is a failure in the regular terms; provided, however, the several Judges are to be the sole judges of the necessity & expediency of ordering such special terms of their respective Courts and provided further that said Judges shall give thirty days notice of such Special terms, to the citizens of the Counties, in which they are to be held.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of State to be affixed this 26 day of September 1865.

Executive Office
Austin Texas, 27th Sept 1865

General.

For three weeks Communications and statements have been accumulating on this Office from many portions of the State, all tending to prove that the freedmen in colonies in every section of the Country, not occupied with troops, are being very badly treated in many instances murdered. This fact in connection with Contracts and even Laws now in force affords a sufficient Military force Stalk pass through the Country where these things are occurring.

I was told by Genl Sheridan when he passed here on his way to New Orleans, a few days past, that Orders & Memorandum troops would be kept moving through the most disaffected Counties of the State for the purpose of creating a proper respect for the Govt and its power and authority— and because also forage for them could be more readily and Cheaply obtained by that means than if they were permanently located at any one point especially in the West where before Crops are secured.

I know General that it is impossible to prevent entirely, the abuses which I have mentioned, but the removal & location of a settled purpose on the part of the Military Authorities of Govt to promptly punish such Offenders by a few examples in proper cases would have a most happy effect. Such a system executed would rigorously acted upon for a time would rapidly lessen the number of such Offences. There is scarcely a day that I am not informed of a Murder committed either on Freedmen. I have no power either to prevent their crimes or punish the Offenders. It must be obvious to you Genl as it is to me that we cannot depend on the Civil Authority in our State for protection yet to deal out justice to evil doers. It is true I have appointed Civil Officers for the several Counties, but in many instances these persons cannot be executed on many of a gang of outlaws who dare defy the Civil authority, and in many of the Counties I am satisfied that judges, jurors and witnesses would all be in danger unless protected by the Military power of the Govt. The appointment of Civil Officers in no sense for the purpose of affording remedies to the citizen for civil rights than in the protection & keeping of order in a County with any efficiency the Criminals of the State. I am aware that it is not the wish or intention of the Military to control the Civil authority, and I am satisfied with pleasure the great care exhibited has characterized the Conduct of all the Military Officers of the Govt Thereby since to the Executive I refer to in Texas. to prevent any Collision between them, and if one had or should have any of Complaint against it I feel sure that it would not be because the Military commander would control— but the Contrary. In Counties where there is a permanent Military force to give protection & the words the laws may be enforced by Civil authority— but in any many of the Counties the effort would be but a force act but possibly a tragedy. I am not sure that it is the policy of Genl Grant and which I consider correctly wise and just) to withdraw the Military and leave the people entirely to adjust & regulate all the affairs that in any way connected with duty to the public peace and the protection to persons and property with security. I do not however regard the Presence of the State two Companies Dispersed Military authority. Illy one of the Political Conditions of Texas is the. There is no Constitutional State Govt—

The Provisional Govt of the State is created by and exists at the will of the President. My authority as Provisional Gov is limited to such measures as may be necessary to prepare the people of the State and provide the means for a Convention to organize a new Constitutional State Govt, which, when adopted and recognized by the Genl Govt will supercede within the limits of its jurisdiction the Military powder in all things not properly pertaining to the Military authority of the Govt in time of peace, But until this is accomplished the action of the Civil authority created by me are only allowed as a means, to the extent that they can be made available, of aiding the Authorities (Military) of the General Govt in preserving public peace and order, and protecting individual rights and property. To this extent I have felt sure that the Genl Govt would not object to such quasi Civil organization of State Govt as I have attempted pending the period of transition to a regular and permanent State Govt- but I am quite as certain that it would be a departure from and in conflict with the views of the Govt to claim for the Provisional Govt any powder except such as emanates directly from the President. In this view of the case I not only see no objections to the trial of Offenders by a Military tribunals but on the contrary believe that it is a necessity which cannot be avoided without great detriment to the highest interest of the people. There is no Organized resistence to the Genl Govt- but there is in many portions of the State a sullen dissatisfaction, growing out of the loss of Slaves which displays moral suasion and manifesting itself mainly in a total disregard of the rights of Freedmen and the policy of the Govt towards them. In several Counties to the North and North East of this the late Slave owners are defiant- openly declare that Slavery still exists and in the most cruel manner force their late Slaves to obedience to their orders, and where their orders are not obeyed the most atrocious cruelties are perpetrated often resulting in murder. It is most painful to me to have to recount these things, but a sense of duty leaves me no alternative. The Govt having declared the negroes free, is committed to the protection of their freedom. I know that this obligation will be fully met by the Govt; That means have been adopted through the Agency of the Freedmen's Bureau to prevent insurrections and wrongs upon this unfortunate race- but apart from the fact that they seem slow to act in this State, I do not believe- indeed I know that unaided by the Military power their efforts will be nearly fruitless of good. Urged by these Considerations I have respectfully to request that you will, as early as may be consistent with the general service in your Dept, direct bodies of troops through the Counties bordering on the Colorado, Brazos, Trinity, and Red Rivers with such instructions to the Officers in Command as you may deem necessary to enquire into and punish such Offenders as have defied the authority of the Govt and the claims of humanity. I am the more anxious that this should not be delayed for the reason that it is very apparent that the evils complained of have been growing daily because the offenders have been led to believe that the Govt having declared the negroes free would content itself with leaving them to such protection as public opinion and Combinations among their late owners may choose to award them; and these Combinations embrace in their scope not only forced obedience on the part of the negro, but abuse and violence to such of the white men of the Country who were owners slaves as shall dare to be guilty of hiring a freedman. Many, very many worthy citizens have complained to me that they would gladly hire freedmen to labor for them for fair wages to be paid in Cash but were afraid lest

On account of threats which were menaced their lives. I have felt hitherto very reluctant to believe that a people who had sinned so grievously, and who are to such an extent the recipients of mercy and pardon could persist in such madness; but I am convinced that nothing but actual fear of punishment can correct this inhuman spirit to the negro in any position in which he can be placed other than that of a Slave. It is a disease which is incurable except by one mode of treatment. This will have to be resorted to, or scenes will be enacted in Texas more horrible than any which have characterized the late rebellion, black and damnable as many of those have been. It is not only justice but mercy to all concerned that a vigorous effort be made to suppress further violence. God knows this people have enough to answer for in the dark catalogue of crimes to justify the most rigorous measures to prevent an accumulation of infamy. In the hope and earnest desire to prevent as far as may be such crimes and cruelties I have made this appeal to you Genl not doubting that you fully reciprocate my feelings; and wishing at the same time to relieve your mind from any apprehensions that so urgent action on your part would excite petty jealousy of an infraction or usurpation of my authority. We are both acting for our Govt and for the interest of the Govt and the people. I have according to my understanding of it defined my power. Where I have not the power you must exercise it- because if you do not there is no remedy. I could give you specific information with regard to several cases of the most barbarous and atrocious character which have occured in Counties not remote from this Capitol. I hope you will pardon me Genl for respectfully suggesting that a proper order published by you warning the people against such abuses, and requesting information in regard to them, would I think have a good effect.

The policy of the late Slave owners, who are forming Combinations, is to prevent other persons from hiring the freedmen until winter approaches so that sheer necessity will compel them to remain with their former masters without compensation. This is a wrong to every citizen who is thus deprived of the privilege of hiring, as well as to freedmen- and will result in injury to the Community at large- for it requires but little reflection to determine that the more generally the freedmen are diffused among the white population of the State the better it will be for both. But unprotected, neither the freedman or the White man who was even a Slave owner can act for his own interest. The only wise and just policy- that of securing to the freedman the full value of his labor; will not only be defeated by such combinations if permitted, but his freedom proclaimed before the world will be to him a bitter mockery. I hope to be able at no distant day to pay you a friendly visit and confer with you upon this and other subjects more satisfactorily. In the meantime as soon as your engagements will permit I shall be pleased to hear from you in reply to this.

I am General
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
(Signed) A J Hamilton

Maj Genl
A G Wright
Comdg Dept of Texas
Galveston.

United States of America.

The State of Texas.

By Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of Texas.

To all whom it may concern.

Know Ye! That reposing faith and special Trust and confidence in the discretion, integrity and ability of Morgan C Hamilton, of the City of Austin, in the said State of Texas, I Andrew J Hamilton, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Provisional Governor of the said State, have this day appointed and do by these presents appoint him the said Morgan C Hamilton, to proceed to England for the purpose of reducing into his possession, as Agent of the said State of Texas certain Bonds of the United States, which belong to the said State; to wit; Three Hundred Bonds of the denomination of five Thousand Dollars each, which said Bonds were issued by the United States on the first day of January One thousand, eight Hundred and sixty one, and were made redeemable after the thirty first day of December one thousand, Eight Hundred and sixty four; which said Bonds are denominated on the faces thereof, "Texas Indemnity 5% Stock."

To each of these Bonds are or should be attached, five Coupons, for semi annual interest, each Coupon of the denomination of Twenty five Dollars, so that the aggregate amount of the said Bonds and Coupons is Three Hundred and Thirty Seven Thousand, and Five Hundred Dollars of the money of the United States. The said Bonds are numbered from No 4395 to No 4694 both of said numbers being included.

It is understood by me that One Hundred and forty nine of the said Bonds were in the month of June A.D. one thousand, 1862 sold by Messrs Droege & Co. of Manchester, England to Messrs George Peabody & Co of London, England, and are now involved in a proceeding in Chancery, instituted by the firm of Messrs George Peabody & Co against the said Messrs Droege & Co for the purpose of annulling the said Sale. And I am also informed that the proceeds of the said Sale are enjoined at the suit of Messrs George Peabody & Co in the hands of Messrs Jones Loyd & Co of London or of Messrs Loyd Entwisle & Co of Manchester. I am also further informed that the remaining One hundred and fifty one of the said Three Hundred Bonds are now in the possession of the said Messrs Droege & Co of Manchester: That these Bonds were placed in the hands of the said firm by Messrs Oetken & Meister & Co of Austin Texas and by Messrs Droege Oetling & Co of Matamoras Mexico, for sale and are now held by Messrs Droege & Co Manchester, by virtue of some agreement between the said

Droege & Co and the said Peter M. Swisher & Co or Peter M. Swisher, as Security against Costs or damages or Loss to Messrs Droege & Co because of the said Suit of Messrs George Peabody & Co

Now Be Written of the above Stated facts or information, and any other facts that may have Relation to the matter of the foregoing Agency, I do hereby Confer upon the said Morgan & Hamilton full power and authority to receive for behalf of the State of Texas, the said Three Hundred Bonds and the Coupons attached to said Bonds or rightfully belonging to them, from Messrs Droege & Co of Manchester England or from any other person or persons in whose possession the said Bonds and Coupons may be. The said Morgan & Hamilton is also fully empowered by these presents, to receive any portion of said Bonds and Coupons, or the proceeds of the Sale of the said Bonds and Coupons or of any portion of them, and to make proper and full acquittance as the Agents of the State of Texas to any party or parties from whom he may receive the said Bonds and Coupons or any part of them or the proceeds of the Sale of them or of any part of them. And the said Morgan & Hamilton has full power to make any demand that the State of Texas may rightfully make for the premises, to institute for her own use any legal proceeding, to make herself a party to any proceeding for Law or Equity, to adjust and fully Settle any question of Costs, of interests upon Money or other Charges growing out of the matters hereby Committed to them; and also to transfer by proper endorsement and Certificate any of the said Bonds or Coupons that he may find it necessary to Sell or Convert into Money for the purpose of adjusting Costs or other Charges or for the purpose of accomplishing the general object of this Agency, to the end that the State of Texas may recover possession of the said Bonds and Coupons or receive the proceeds of the Sale thereof. And all the acts of the said Hamilton done in pursuance of the Authority hereby granted will be valid and binding upon the State of Texas.

Done at the City of Austin in the State of Texas on this Nineteenth day of October, Anno Domini One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty five.

Witness my hand and the Seal of the State of Texas

L. S

By the Governor

Secretary of State.

Provisional Governor of the State of Texas.

Executive Office
Austin Texas Octo 19. 1862.

To
M. C. Hamilton,
Sir,

You have this day been appointed and commissioned as Agent of the State of Texas, to proceed to England to recover the possession for the State of Texas, of certain Bonds and Coupons which of right belong to the said State. Your Commission, bearing this date, is herewith handed to you.

The Bonds which it is the object of your mission to recover, are accurately discribed in your Commission.

The history of the present condition of these Bonds and Coupons is this In the month of April A.D. 1862 the Military Board of the State of Texas appointed Isaac M. Swisher Esq to proceed to England or to the Continent of Europe, to purchase Commissions of War and other articles to enable the State of Texas to aid the then existing rebellion against the Government of the United States, and for this purpose the said Isaac M. Swisher Esq was furnished by the said Military Board with three hundred of the United States Texas Indemnity Bonds for one thousand Dollars each, with Coupons for unaccrued interest attached to said Bonds. The said three hundred Bonds and the Coupons for interest not due at the time of their delivery to I. M. Swisher Esq amounts to three hundred and forty four thousand Dollars.

By agreement with the House of Droege Retting & Co of Matamoras Mexico, These Bonds and Coupons were placed in the hands of Droege & Co of Manchester, England, to be sold by them,

In the month of June 1862 Droege & Co of Manchester, sold to George Peabody & Co of London One Hundred and forty three of the said Bonds in three lots of 21, 57, and 79 Bonds respectively. The aggregate amount paid or to be paid by Peabody & Co for these Bonds was £25.981. 17 S and 6 d. or at the rate of (about) 77 1/2 cents on the dollar. This amount (£25.981.17.S. and 6 d.) was placed to the Credit of Droege & Co in the banking House of Jones Loyd & Co of London and purchases was afterwards, transferred to the banking House of Loyd Entwisle & Co of Manchester, to the Credit of Droege Retting & Co. The payments for the Bonds were made by Messrs Peabody & Co, between the 2d of June and the 15th of July 1862.

The £25.981. 17 S. 6 d. was placed by Droege & Co in the hands of Loyd Entwisle & Co to the Credit of Isaac M. Swisher & Co and Swisher & Co commenced purchasing goods through Droege & Co drawing Checks upon the funds in the hands of Loyd Entwisle & Co to make payments. I. M. Swisher & Co (as they inform me) had drawn about the sum of Two Thousand Pounds Sterling when the business was arrested by a proceeding in Chancery instituted by Messrs Peabody & Co. against Droege & Co. the Bonds

of the Acc Hundred and forty prairie Locals; the Complts
Entitled proceeding prayed to cancel the Sale of the Acc
Hundred and forty prairie Locals Because of the Information
that they had no Warrant Rates and Locals not to be Sold
in the Reading of the United States.

To the Complaints of M. Drisker Plts had Contracted as Drayage Plts had Contracted for Hides for a large Stock of Goods Which was Expected when Hides Goods were Hides Shipped that they should be Sold for by Checks Drafts by Drisker Plts before the Goods on deposit in the House of Lloyd Outerbridge Plts but what proceeds in Excess of that Sum (Nearly Fifteen Hundred Pounds Sterling) Cred Required by Messrs Peabody Plts to abide the Result of their Suit. This being so Drayage Plts declined to let Drisker Plts have the Goods which had been Contracted for but entered into a Written Agreement with M. Drisker by the terms of which the Goods were to be Sent to the Care of Drayage Collins Plts of Matamoras to be Sold for and on account of their Goods in Manchester Cotf Drisker Plts Should pay for them at Current Prices and Charges in Cotton or Money on their Arrival at Matamoras

It was further Agreed between Drayage Plts and Drisker that the remaining Acc Hundred and Fifty Nine of the Three Hundred Bales Remaining unsold Should remain in the hands of Drayage Plts as Security for Cotton or Effects to which Drayage Plts might be Subjected by the Suit of Peabody Plts.

All these now Mic See that the Acc Hundred and Forty Nine of the Bales are Included in a Suit in Chancery and the remaining One Hundred and Fifty Nine Bales are in the Hands of Messrs Drayage Plts as Security against the Success of the Said Suit.

We will also Receive that the Goods and Cotton amounting in the Aggregate the Cottons Maturing in July 1862 Having been Attached Since the Bales and Carted to Three Hundred and Thirty Seven Dollars and Five Hundred Dollars are likely to be Changed.

But with the Costs of the Chancery Suit of Peabody Plts against Drayage Plts whether the Claim be Established or finally Tried.

And will Receive of Peabody Plts to account on the Judgment Said for the Three Hundred and Forty Nine Bales from the Time of Judgment until the Suit Finally Tried, and Decided, Returned to Peabody Plts

Also Drayage Plts Counsel to Appeal with Peabody Plts and Assistants to attend the Hearing of Exceptions &c &c

Also Receive money Expended which will Accrue in Case of Appeal Costs &c Drayage Plts

insist that they had on the Stock of goods purchased for Swisher & Co or for John M Swisher, and which were to have been paid for out of the money in the hands of Lloyd Eastwood & Co, but which were finally sent to Matamoras under the agreement with John M Swisher to which reference has been made. This agreement with a copy of which you are furnished, certainly does not contemplate that the bonds delivered in the hands of Messrs Droege & Co were to be security against any loss that might be sustained on the goods Shipped to Matamoras. It will be seen by reference to the agreement between Messrs Droege & Co and J M Swisher that the latter was to have nothing to do with the goods Shipped to Messrs Droege Oetling & Co of Matamoras nor was he Should keep for them upon their arrival in Matamoras either in money or Cotton. The bonds belonging to Texas have therefore no further connection with the mercantile adventure. The goods Shipped to Matamoras were actually Sold for account of Messrs Droege & Co of Manchester Whether there was any loss or profit incident to that transaction is a matter with which the State of Texas has no further concern.

I am also informed by Mr Swisher that he executed to Messrs Droege & Co an obligation to indemnify them against loss on the Shipment to Matamoras, but which in no manner involved the bonds left in their possession. This being true, and compliance with the said written agreement between Droege & Co and J M Swisher touching the Shipment to Matamoras, which clearly excludes the idea of any charges upon the Bonds except for offences growing out of the Suit of Messrs. Peabody & Co, it would be very inconsiderable in Messrs Droege & Co to seek to reimburse themselves for losses upon the Stock of goods by charging such losses against the bonds in their possession.

In this connection it must also be borne in mind that Mr Swisher had no authority from the Texas government of Texas to make the bonds chargeable with losses upon any intermediate adventure over which neither himself nor the State of Texas had any control.

But you are not expected to engage in litigation, unless it be to make yourself a party to the Suit already pending, for the purpose of obtaining a decree by which the object of your mission will be substantially and most readily accomplished. Protracted litigation, no matter with what result could only be detrimental to the State. You are expected to recover possession of the property of the State on the best terms possible, short of submitting to endless and wholly unreasonable exactions. Claim. Messrs Droege & Co may present a claim for their commissions for the sale of the one hundred and forty nine bonds. In view of the possibility of such a demand I herewith hand you the account of Messrs Droege Oetling & Co of Matamoras rendered by the Military Board of Texas, and upon which a settlement was based between said house and the said Board, in which account you will perceive, that the house in Matamoras charged the said Board a Commission of two and a half per centum upon the whole of the three hundred Bonds estimating their cash value to be two hundred and ten

five thousand dollars. Then this year will see the State of Texas relieved of said Commissioners, and only upon the Bonds actually sold, leave upon them remaining unpaid.

We must feel that the interest of the State would be secured by impressing upon these Agencies such particular directions as may prevent the necessity of their personal visit to Europe, to procure the necessary funds to obtain the property of the State. These Agencies should all be separate, which must therefore be left to your sound discretion. Upon a general view of the whole case, if you can arrange to permit possession of the Bonds, three hundred thousand dollars nominal value, in surrendering, in reasonable amounts as may seem to be necessary, the Creditors, according to Sixty cents furnished five hundred dollars, it seems to me, to be advisable to do so, and you will consider yourself authorized to act accordingly. You will also bear in mind

Executive Office.
City of Austin Texas
October 20th 1865

Whereas I have Commissioned Morgan C. Hamilton as Agent of the State of Texas to proceed to England for the purpose of recovering possession for the State of Texas, of certain United States Texas Indemnity 5% Stock, to wit: Three hundred Bonds, for one thousand dollars each issued by the United States on the first day of January A.D. Eighteen hundred and fifty one, and made redeemable after the thirty first day of December A.D Eighteen hundred and sixty four, which said Bonds, are numbered from 4395 to 4694, both numbers included, and have Coupons attached, for semi annual interest, which said Coupons amount in the aggregate to the sum of thirty seven thousand and five hundred dollars: Now if the said Morgan C. Hamilton shall succeed in recovery possession of the said Bonds and Coupons; then I, Andrew J. Hamilton by virtue of the authority vested in me as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do by these presents, authorize and fully empower him the said Morgan C. Hamilton, as Agent of the State of Texas to present said Bonds and Coupons for payment at the Treasury of the United States and receive payment of said Bonds and Coupons, and to execute in his own name, as Agent of the State of Texas, such vouchers of payment as may be demanded at the said Treasury. And I do further authorize and empower him the said Morgan C Hamilton, after he shall have received payment of the said Bonds and Coupons from the National Treasury, to invest in behalf of the State of Texas, the moneys which he shall have received in payment of said Bonds and Coupons, in such United States interest bearing Stocks, as in his judgment shall be most to the interest of the said State of Texas: giving, by these presents, to him the said Morgan C. Hamilton full power and authority to do whatever may be necessary to make such investment of the said moneys: and all of the acts of the said Morgan C. Hamilton done in pursuance of this power will be valid and binding upon the State of Texas.

Witness my hand and the seal of the State of Texas. Done this the 20th day of October 1865.

Executive Office
City of Austin Texas September 28th 1865

Hon John H Reagan
Fort Warren Mass.

Sir-

I regret that I did not receive your letter of the 9th directed to me at Washington. I had left that City before it reached, and am indebted to a friend who brought from thence only a few days past, otherwise it would probably never have reached me, because on account of the want of mails from New Orleans to Texas; until within a few days past all mail matter for Texas from East of New Orleans was sent back from that City to the dead letter Office in Washington. I make this explanation to relieve your mind from the thought I could treat your communication with silent indifference. A very few days after the reception of the letter referred to, Your address to the people of Texas reached me through Maj Genl Hooker and the war Dept in Washington.

It was to me a most welcome document, coming at a time most opportune, and destined, I hope and believe, to do much good in bringing to sober reflection and wise Conclusions, the still distracted minds of many of our people. I scarcely know in what phrase to write to an old and cherished friend of other and happier days from whom I have been so long and cruelly separated personally and politically. Let it suffice that I have faith in your truth, your honor, and earnest desire to do all in your power to promote the welfare of our unhappy people by inducing them to offer no further sacrifice upon the altar of our Country, their prejudices and Idols of the past. I could wish that you were here to aid us in the great work to be accomplished, by your powerful voice and personal influence. You will do me the justice, I know, to acquit me in your mind of personal motives resulting from difference of opinions and action during the past great struggle. He who, at his own, condemned the rebellion or hated the Confederacy more earnestly and entirely than myself- and now no man is more ready to forget the past and strive hand in hand with those who in error upon the right- now and in the future than I. Believing as I have already said that you are honest and sincere in the views expressed in your address, I would embrace you in fact as I do in heart, if you were here, and fully rely upon your hearty co-operation with me in my humble efforts for the restoration of Texas, to her proper position in the Union. When your address arrived Col Miller was not here and has not been since my arrival in the State, but your address was submitted to your brother (Morris) and Governor Pease for correction, and by my request as you will see, it was immediately published in the Gazette and will without doubt be published in most if not all the papers of the State I send with forward a Copy of the Gazette containing the address, in which I have noticed but one error the word "ition" intended it should be "Edition".

I forward also a copy of a letter to the President, which goes to Washington together with this, with the fervent hope that it may not have been written in vain, and that you may soon be restored to your Children, friends and Country.

I remain as of old

Your Friend & Servant

(Signed) A J Hamilton

P S— Sept 27th 1865.

It is with much sorrow, I have now to communicate to you news which has this moment reached me that will add to the weight of affliction under which you suffer. Your brother Morris was five days past in my Office in his usual health, and said he would bring to me by this morning a letter to you to be sent forward with this— but the sound that was to have rejoiced the message of brotherly love and devotion is forever still.

It seems that he rose from his bed in the second story of his residence and still sleeping walked off the upper gallery. In the fall his Spine received a fatal injury. I heard yesterday that he had received a shock from a fall but supposed the injury was slight until the news reached me this morning that he died last night. Dear old friend it would be little less than mockery for me to offer Consolation. God alone can give it, and sustain you in bearing your manifold griefs, and to him in the fullness of my heart I commend you.

Hamilton

Executive Office,
City of Austin Texas Sept 28. 1865.

Sir:

Your favor under date of the 11th August last, informing me of the Organization of the "Bureau of Emigration" and requesting information of measures, if any, adopted by Texas to invite immigration, and the inducements offered by the State to individuals immigrants. I have placed your letter in the hands of old and highly intelligent Citizen, very conversant with the former laws and policy of the late Republic and State of Texas touching this subject and also the public domain, resources, climate, soil and varied productions of the State, with instructions to report to me such information as will enable me to answer your enquiries, I hope, satisfactorily. It is a subject upon which I feel deep interest, and in which is involved in a great degree the prosperity and development of not only Texas but the entire South within any reasonable time. But time will not permit me to do more than thus acknowledge the receipt of your obliging communication, and assure you of a speedy answer to your enquiries.

I have the honor to be.
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A J Hamilton
(Signed)

H N Cougar
Com of Immigration
Washington
D.C.

Executive Office,
Christian Bivouac Oct 4th 1865.

General.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt & in reply to your General Order No 8, and beg to enquire whether the 3rd paragraph is intended to prevent the collection of property belonging to the State by persons under my direction and appointment. Since the rebel forces disbanded, a large amount of State property - Cotton, Wool, Wagons mules, horses, Cotton and Goods, Rebels, and Merchandise Scattered over the Country, belonging to the State (not the Confederacy) and liable every moment to appropriation by private individuals. I have succeeded in recovering small portions of it and have Agents at work to reclaim what can be found. I had not supposed that the property of the State would be claimed by the Genl Govt, but if in this you think differently I would be glad to be advised of your views, so that I may present the question to the Govt at Washington.

I am General
Your Obt Servant

Maj Genl
H G Wright
Comdt Dept of Texas

(Signed) A J Hamilton

Executive Office
Austin Texas 5th Oct 1865

W Frank Carter
Dear Sir.

Yours of the 28th Sept is received. I do not know what to do to meet the exigences of your situation in regard to Indian troubles. The Treasury is empty- not a dollar so to speak, and will not be for some months to come. It will be impossible for the State to arm and equip or provision any force large or small. I have been urging the U. S. Military authorities for months to send a force upon the frontier for protection and they have Constantly promised that it should be done, but from some Cause unknown to me it is delayed. I feel duply Concerned for your people, but I cannot call out a force for twelve months, nor any definite time, because, whenever a sufficient U. S force occupy the frontier there will be no further need of them- and because it would entail on the State a large addition to her present heavy debt- Of course I would at any cost give protection to the frontier by calling for State troops if the U. S should not furnish protection. You will see however, that this from the necessity of the case must be done in the first instance at the expense of the men who engage in the service, and who will have to visit Government hereafter. I hereby direct the Chief Justice to organize one or ten Companies, if one is not sufficient, under the provisions of an Act of the Legislature, passed 7th Febry 1861 entitled "An Act to provide for the protection of the State of Texas". These Companies to continue only so long as they may be deemed necessary for the safety of the Citizens of the County. Let the organization be in Conformity to the law. I will again urge a U. S. force to be sent to your relief, and if it is not promptly done, I will assume the responsibility of raising a permanent force. Cost what it may, provided the people can be got to serve without money for a time. I send a Copy of the Acts Containing the laws referred to, which you will find on page 10.

Very Truly Yours
(Signed) A J Hamilton.

P. S. I am gratified to hear that your Court is progressing well.

H

Executive Office.
Austin Texas 5th Oct 1865.

To

The proper authorities of the United States.

Mrs A. R. Lubbock

of this State, whose husband is now a prisoner of State in Fort Delaware, has through her friends, made known to me that she desires to go North with a view to procure, if possible, an interview with him, or failing in that at least to hear from him during his Confinement; and fearing that there might be some objection to this on the part of the proper authorities, has requested from me some statement of her case in the hope that it may be of service to her.

Mrs Lubbock is a most estimable Lady, and devoted wife, and, as can can be well conceived, has suffered such agony of mind as greatly to endanger her health, and as her friends believe will, without early relief, prove fatal to her. When I say that I deeply sympathise with her I but poorly express my feelings. None could seek to render her responsible for the acts of her husband, and all must admire and observe the devotion which grows stronger under the misfortune which have overtaken her husband. I do not know what the intentions of the Govrnment towards Gov Lubbock may be, nor its policy with regard to allowing, or denying to him intercourse with friends; but I cannot suppose there can be any objection to Mrs Lubbock going to Delaware to be near the place of her husbands Confinement; and I hope that it may not be inconsistant with established policy to grant what, to her, would be more than life — the priviledge of being and ministering to him in his sad condition, and for this privilege, in her behalf I do now most respectfully and earnestly Appeal.

(Signed) A. J. Hamilton
Prov Governor of Texas

Executive Office
Austin Texas 6th Oct 1865

To-

Yours of the 26th ultimo, requesting me to designate to your Department two Newspapers for the publication in Texas, of the laws of the United States passed between the periods of the 3rd March 1861 and 3rd March 1865 is received. It affords me pleasure to comply with your request by naming "The San Antonio Express" published in the City of San Antonio and Edited by Hon Wm E Jones— and "Flakes Bulletin" published in the City of Galveston, and Edited by J Flake Esq. These are both able Journals, earnestly devoted to the Policy of the United States Government, and the Editors thoroughly Union now and in the past and eminently deserving.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Ob't Servant
A J Hamilton
Prov Gov of Texas

Hon W H Seward
Sec'r State U S
Washington
D. C.

Executive Office
Austin Texas Oct 16th 1865

To answer numerous inquiries, and to establish a uniform rule throughout the State, for the assessment and collection of the Specific Tax upon goods, wares and merchandise sold, and the License and occupation Tax, Assessors and Collectors of Taxes, in the several Counties in the State, are hereby directed, that the tax imposed by law, in the above cases, will be assessed, from the 1st day of July 1865. Assessors and Collectors appointed by me are requested to execute Bonds in Conformity with law, and forward them to this Office, with delay. And notice is hereby given to persons who were acting as Assessors and Collectors of the State of Texas, prior to and at the Close of the rebellion, that they are hereby required to make return to this Office, of all moneys or securities, or pretended securities, or currency, of whatever nature, which they may have received in payment of Taxes, prior to 1st July 1865, and still remaining in their possession; and especially, that they report and account for such sums of Specie as they may have received in payment as a tax upon specie, in the hands of tax payers, and not accounted for by them. A prompt Compliance with this notice will avoid trouble

In testimony whereof, I have made, set my name, and the Seal of State This 16th of Oct 1865

By the Governor—
Donald Sharman Act'g Private Sec't

A J Hamilton
Prov Gov of Texas

Executive Office
City of Austin Texas 19th Oct 1865

Sir.

Through this medium I beg leave to introduce to you my brother Wm M. Hamilton of this City. He is on his way to England under a Commission from me to recover possession of certain U. S. Securities, belonging to the State of Texas, known as "Texas indemnity United States 5% Bonds, which were sent by the rebel authorities in Texas, by rebel agents to be sold in that Country and the proceeds applied to the procurement of arms and munitions of war in support of the late rebellion. Fortunately the facts in regard to the Bonds reached England before they were all sold, and in time to enable Messrs George Peabody & Co who purchased them that were sold, to stop the purchase money in the hands of Certain Bankers in Manchester by a bill in Chancery which is still pending.

These Bonds and interest Coupons amounting to the sum $337500 were taken to England by Messrs John M Swisher & Co of this City, in June 1862 under the authority of what was called the "Military Board of the State of Texas". A full and Complete Statement by said Swisher & Co of their appointment by said Board and of their actings and doings as Agents of the State of Texas - the present condition of said Bonds and a full and Complete relinquishment by them of any ownership in or claim to them or any part thereof properly certified, will be shown you by my brother. He also bears with him properly certified Copies of all papers properly relating to the matter, which he will take pleasure in exhibiting to you.

There will be trouble in making good the claim of ownership of said Bonds on the part of Texas. The Bonds are now past due being redeemable after the 31st Dec last. The only question which will be made against the delivery of the Bonds to Texas will be the payment of the costs of a suit now pending to cancel and annul a Contract of sale for a portion of said Bonds and the interest on the purchase Money which was enjoined by said Suit.

The only means the State has to meet these demands and thus release the Bonds is by using so many of the Bonds or Coupons as may be necessary; This can be done without trouble if you will in writing, say that said Bonds and Coupons will be paid to any Bonafide holder to whom they may be transferred by my authority.

Upon such assurance from you my brother will be able to transfer to the parties having the claims, or to sell to others as many of the Bonds as may be necessary to relieve the others.

This is the only treasure Texas has left from the wholesale robberies perpetrated upon her during the revolution, except one hundred and twelve of the same Class of Bonds, which I forward by my brother properly endorsed by me, which he will present for payment; the money for which I respectfully request may be placed to the credit of Texas in New Orleans, if convenient to the Treasury of the United States; otherwise in the City of New York subject to the order of the Treasurer of the State. Upon the recovery of the Bonds in England I propose to

Convert them into other U. S. securities - say Seven thirties - . Can this be done at the National Treasury?. This is important to Texas because the Bonds in England (Texas Indemnity 5'%") are just due and drawing of course no interest. I appeal to the United States authority to aid in restoring this property to Texas and investing it for the benefit of our poor and much abused State. I regret to learn that many of the Bonds of the same Class which have been robbed from the State Treasury during the late rebellion have been recently paid. But I suppose Texas will have to bear this among her other losses. (At least let us save what is in England. The papers which my brother carries with him will identify the particular Bonds by number.

I have the honor to be

Most Respectfully

Your Obt Servant

A J Hamilton

(Signed)

Hon Hugh McCulloch

Sec'y Treasury -

Executive Office

City of Austin Texas 19th Oct 1865

Sir -

I permit me to introduce to your acquaintance my brother Mr W G Hamilton of this City by whom this will be handed you . I have sent him on a Mission to England to recover, if possible, certain U. S. 7'3 Bonds belonging to Texas which were abstracted from the Treasury during the late rebellion and sent hither by rebel Agents there to be sold and the proceeds applied to the purchase of arms and munitions of war to sustain the insurgents. Fortunately they were not all sold, and those that were, are not lost to Texas for the reason that the purchasers, Messrs Peabody & Co of London, were properly informed of the facts in relation to them in time to prosecute a suit in Chancery to annul the Contract of sale, and by which not only the Bonds sold to them, but the purchase money, as well, are tied up. This suit involves One Hundred and forty nine (149) Bonds for One thousand dollars each with interest Coupons attached for Eighteen thousand Six Hundred and twenty five dollars, making an aggregate of $167,625 00. Besides these, there are in the hands of Messrs Brooke & Co of Manchester England One Hundred and forty one of said Bonds of the same denomination with Coupons attached for Eighteen thousand eight Hundred and seventy five dollars, making, in Bonds and Coupons $187875 00 which are held by said firm as security for Costs, damages &c on account of said Chancery Suit - they being the parties who effected the sale to Peabody & Co and against whom the suit is pending. These Bonds are in this way the sum of $337500 00 against which will be charged only the Costs of Suit and probably the interest on the money paid by Messrs Peabody & Co and which by payment of these charges can be reduced again to her possession and which Constitutes, in fact the only portion of her treasure of which she has not been

effectually robbed, except One Hundred and twelve Bales of the same Class now in the State Treasury. My brother will fully explain the particulars, Should you desire to know them. We will rest in England in=
dences of the fact that I am the Provisional Governor of Texas, which I must respectfully request you to furnish under the Seal of the United States
And I beg also that you will, by a note Commend him to the attention
of our Minister Mr. Adams. He is worthy of this or would not ask it.
He will give you such information touching the political condition
of Texas, as you may wish to know. I have a difficult, but
not impossible task to accomplish. I have a determined energy to the
work with determined energy and with what ability I possess.
Was I to act alone upon my judgment I would not for some
months to come, call a Convention, but in deference to what I believe
to be the Policy and wishes of the Government at Washington. I will
very soon proceed to do so. I cannot but believe that Texas, of not
most of the States lately in rebellion have acted with ill judged
precipitancy in their efforts to reoccupy their former positions in
the Union. The sequel however will determine.
Always remembering with pleasure and gratitude the many
acts of Kindness and friendship for which I am your debtor; and
wishing Your health to sustain you in the performance of your
great Labors and the just reward of an able and faithful
Public Servant.

I remain Dear Sir
Your Friend & Obt Servant
A J Hamilton

Hon Wm H Seward
Sect of State

The State of Texas

W B Coffee.

You are hereby appointed an agent of the State of Texas,
to look after and gather any property belonging to the State,
such as Cotton, Wool, Mules, Horses, Oxen Wagons &c &c, and
demand, recover and receipt for such as you may find in the
possession of party or parties in the State.
And that you give your special attention to a certain lot
of Cotton – Eighty five Bales now in the possession of the Military
authorities at Victoria, which said Cotton, from the best
information furnished to this Office is the property of the State.
There are also of the same lot twenty five Bales which were
forwarded to Indianola to the U. S. Treasury Agent.
This Cotton it seems was shipped for Mexico by one
Alexander as Agent of the State.
Herewith you are furnished with a certified Copy of the
authority of said Alexander and one Grossbeck.
You will inspect the Bills of Lading for the Cottons and if
you find them in the name of the State, present the claims of the

State thereof; and if the same is satisfactorily Maj Genl Stanley or proper Military authority take Possession of said Cotton and report the circumstances.

The accompanying letters will direct you where to enquire for said Bills of Lading.

L.S.

Given under my hand and Seal of the State this 12th day of October 1865.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Prov. Gov. of Texas

The State of Texas.

To W L Sloan.

You are hereby appointed an Agent for the State of Texas to Collect and dispose of any and all property belonging to the State of Texas, that you may find in the possession of any party or parties, within the limits of the State and report each transaction to me without delay. The Military authorities are requested to give Mr Sloan such assistance as may be necessary to place him in possession of property belonging to the State of Texas.

Given under my hand and Seal of State this 27th day of October 1865.

L.S.

A J Hamilton
Prov. Gov of Texas

Executive Office.
Austin Texas Oct 27th 1865.

To W L Sloan.

Sir:

In collection of debts due the State and in the Sale of property belonging to the State you will be governed by what you conceive to be the best interest of the State, and you are hereby authorized and empowered to make such Settlements final, You will receive as Compensation for your labor; one fourth of all property in Kind or proceeds that you may secure for the State.

A J Hamilton
Prov. Gov of Texas

Austin Texas
October 30th 1865

To
His Excellency
A J Hamilton
Gov.

Sir:

We have the honor to submit the following report of the result of our labors, under your appointment to investigate the Condition of the State Treasury; the amount and character of assets on hand and the disbursements of public funds belonging to the State, so far as the same can be ascertained, embracing the period since the passage of the so called ordinance of Secession.

Very Respectfully
Your Ob't Servants
E M Pease.
Lucadi Pabin.

Military Board

This board was created by "an act to provide arms and ammunition, and for the manufacture of arms and ordnance for the military defence of the State," approved 11th January 1862. This act appropriated $500000 of 8 per cent State Bonds, for procuring and manufacturing arms, ammunition and ordnance for the defence of the State. It created a Military Board, to be composed of the Governor, Comptroller and Treasurer, any two of whom might act; gave them unlimited power to dispose of said bonds in the execution of their duties; to appoint agents, to establish a foundry for the manufacture of ordnance and manufactories of small arms.

Another act, approved same day, authorized the board to use any bonds and Coupons, to be found in the Treasury on any account, not exceeding One million dollars, and at a discount not greater than twenty per cent.

Another act, approved 11th January, 1862, appropriated one million dollars for Military purposes. F R Lubbock, Governor; C R Stokes, Comptroller, and C H Randolph, Treasurer, composed, the board from the 11th of January 1862. until the 7th of November, 1863, from this time until about the 12th of April 1864, it was composed of Pendleton Murrah, Governor, and Stokes and Randolph.

An Act was approved 16th Dec, 1863, to reorganize the board, by which the Governor was to be ex officio president, and two other members were to be appointed by him. This board was to succeed to all the duties of the former board, and have control of all public works and supplies. This board was organized about the 12th April 1864; was composed of Pendleton Murrah, and N B Pearce, and James S Holman and Continued until superseded by the Surrender of the Trans-Mississippi Department.

In speaking of the acts of the board, those which took place before the 12th April 1864. will be designated as the acts of the old board, and those after that date as the acts of the new board.

The books and papers of both boards were found in such disorder and confusion that it required much labor and time to ascertain what their transactions had been. We present the following synopsis as the best that could be obtained.

It appears from the Comptroller's books that there was drawn from the Treasury by the two boards:

In Confederate treasury notes,	257.191.90
In Specie,	1.729.95
In State treasury warrants,	25.000.00
In 8 per cent. State Bonds,	395.000.00
In United States 5 per ct. Bonds,	634.000.00
In Coupons of U. S. bonds,	132.700.00
	$1.651.621.85

They returned to the treasury:

In Specie,	315.55
In Confederate treasury notes,	343.958.28
	$344.273.83

Most of the funds were drawn during the year 1862, and the greater portion of the Confederate notes were returned in October and November 1864, when they were almost worthless.

Purchase and Sale of Cotton.

From the best information we can obtain the old board purchased 5736 Bales of Cotton, for which they paid, as appears from their books $544,438.23, mostly in Confederate notes and 8 per cent. State bonds.

Number of bales bought by old board,		5736
Lost in rebaling,	28.	
Burned at gin house,	50	
Lost by overflow of Rio Grande,	34= 112	
Number of bales to be accounted for.		5624

This Cotton appears to have been sold by the following agents, and for the amounts stated, over and above charges, freights and commissions, except when it is otherwise mentioned.

By the old board:

169 Bales	to the San Antonio Powder Company for 80,000 lbs of the estimated at		8.000.00
197 bales	by Lansburg & Brother, for		9.731.49
43 "	J. D. Wilson, for		1.769.94
10 "	S. G. Kingsbury, for		600.00
9 "	J. A. Robbins, for		422.30
5 "	M. K. Ryan, for		228.50
7 "	C. H. Randolph, for		169.57
36 "	Dryer, Lee, to Droege, Oetling & Co		1.555.72
150 "	to George Pfeiffer for		6.961.50
195 "	Lansburg & Brother for		11.524.52
1370 "	Droege, Oetling & Co		146.325.95
2210 "	by John H. Moore and Allen & Brothers at Monterey over and above charges, for		173.465.77
882 bales	Ball, Hutchings & Co, for		53.691.72
265 "	Ball Hutchings & Co for		19.767.40

Part of this lot was consigned to them by the new board.

To here

Sales all bought by the old board. 1314454.35

5551 bales.

Leaving 73 bales to be accounted for by the new board.

The proceeds of the above sales appear to have been disposed of, as follows:

The old board bought of Lowenberg & Brother

- 662 Keycuby Cambridge boxes
- 750 Cavalry " "
- 50 dozen jeans of Shoes
- 1 Colt Pistols
- 91 4/12 doz Powder Flasks
- 470000 Caps

For which goods, and per commissions, charges and freights the old board paid Lowenberg & Brother $122130 in specie, besides $9731.49, the proceeds of 197 bales of Cotton.

They bought from J. J. G. Wilson

- 10,185 lbs rifle powder
- 12 000 lbs Lead
- 20 Gross grass rope
- 500 pieces Grass sacking
- 1 Bale twine
- 18000 Percussion Caps.

For which goods and commissions, charges and freights they paid Wilson $15258.35, besides $1769.94, the proceeds of 23 bales Cotton.

The $166037 received for the 31 bales sold sold by Kingsbury, Rettews, Ryan and Randolph, were used by the old board in keeping expenses on Cotton.

The $1555.72 proceeds of 36 bales, were paid by Droege, Oetting & Co. to Pryor Lea, partly in money, and partly in goods.

The new board bought from George Pfeiffer 9475 lbs powder, for which they paid them $8.000 in 8 per ct State bonds, $2455.50 in State treasury warrants and permits to export in the name of the 1st and 300 bales of Cotton, besides the 150 bales of Cotton estimated at $6961.50.

Lowenberg & Brother paid the old board for the 195 bales amounting to $115245.52 - in powder $6973, Percaps $1056.52, Mexican Shoes $2520, Quinine $945; but the books do not state the number and quantity of these articles.

The old board purchased from Droege, Oetting & Co of Mexicanos.

25547 Yards bagging, 95 lbs tin, 294 lbs rope.
270 Reams paper, 409 Gallons Sperm Oil, 834 dozen pairs Cotton Cards
192 dozen pairs Woolen Cards, 2200 feet belting, 2 Boxes tin.
302 1/2 lbs Cast Steel, 148 1/2 lbs German Steel, 115 lbs Glue,
10 1/2 lbs Vermillion, 10 lbs Borax, 25 lbs Sing Glass,
2 lbs 1 oz Saddlers Silk, 4 lbs Sewing Silk 105 lbs Clear Wire,
75 lbs Steel Wire, 26 Gross Screws, 1/2 doz bell punches, 1/2 doz Wrenches
144 Paper stocks, 28 Bars Square and round iron. 2 Bundles round iron rods
4 Boxes Machine Card Clothing, 4 feeders, 12 doz Stripping Cards.
4324 pairs Blankets, 400 oz Quinine, 305 lbs Opium
412/3 Gross Weights scales, 90 oz Morphine, 29 lbs Sal Soda,
50 pieces Taylors Linen, 3 Yards Sticking plaster, 13191 3/4 lbs Cotton and

6479½ Yds Flannel, 9336/4 Yds Tweeds, 511½ lbs Shoe and Saddlers thread
2208 lbs Caoutchouc, 200 doz grey flannel jackets, 692 Yds Satinet
1400 lbs White and black lead in Oil, 54-59 Yds Albany Stripes, bill of articles
for penitentiary $841.25. bill of files $98.01, 4 doz Nankeen vests
2 doz Linen thread 5 Reams Cartridge paper, 1 ream and 25 folios paper in
blotting paper, ½ Quire Oil paper, 25.000 buff envelopes, 6 lbs best gum,
1 doz erasers, 2 lbs gross nick erasers, 76 gross pens, 9 dozen pen holders,
6 ivory Seals, 6 gold pens, 2 Cases envelope paper, 2 Reams buff envelope paper
1½ doz bottles ink, 150 Vials ink, and 17 gross pencils.
The Board allowed them 2½ per ct. for advancing, 5 per cent. for buying
goods and selling Cotton and 12 per ct. interest. After paying for these
goods, with the duties, interest, Charges, freights and Commissions, and
also insurance and commissions for forwarding 300 United States
bonds to Europe, the House of Droege, Oetling & Co. admit that out of
the proceeds of 1370 bales of Cotton $146325.95, there is due to the Board
the sum of $13116.73, which balance has been paid to the Provisional
Government by a draft on New York for $12816.73. the difference
being for insurance on the draft.

The old Board purchased through and from John McMorris,
and Oliver & Brothers of Monterey-

11824 lbs Lead, 5 bbls Salt peter, 5438 lbs Blue tin,
19717 lbs Sulphur, 8091 lbs Rifle powder, 45691 lbs Powder,
88202 lbs Copper, 4478 pairs Shoes, 5677 Blankets,
2222 Varas Merlins, 3186/4 Varas grey Cloth, 200 Varas blue Cloth,
359 Sides Sole leather, 12 Sides upper leather, 131 lbs Nitric Acid,
82 doz pairs Cotton Cards, 46 doz pairs Woolen Cards,
10728 Strips bagging, 11296 lbs Rope, 164 lbs twine, 2000 envelopes.

The new Board made a Settlement with John McMorris
and Oliver & Brothers, in which some deduction was made, because
a part of the powder was not good; but what this deduction was
is not clearly stated. They allowed John McMorris a commission, under his contract with the old Board, of $6080.15
for selling cotton and buying goods, and also allowed
Oliver & Brothers 12 per cent interest. For their goods, and duties
interest, Charges, freights and Commissions on them, in addition
to the proceeds of the 2210 bales of Cotton, amounting to $1734677
they admitted a balance due to Oliver & Brothers of $10042.62,
and to John McMorris of $7091.14, which balances appear
to be still due them.

The old Board purchased from Bell Hutchings & Co;
3006 pairs Cotton Cards, 12000 pairs Woolen cards, and
4000 lbs powder, under an agreement by which B. H & Co
were to receive 30 per cent profit, and they were to purchase and
ship cotton with means furnished by the Board, and were to
receive 5 per cent commission for purchasing, shipping and
selling the Cotton. They purchased, shipped and sold 852
bales, and also shipped and sold 268 bales besides.
The new Board made a settlement with Bell Hutchings & Co
by which, in addition to the above goods and drafts drawn
on them by the old Board for $122130. B. H & Co paid the
New Board $14273.76 for the proceeds of the 1150 bales amounting to $7345.

State Foundry.

The old Board erected one iron foundry at Newlin, for which they paid out, over and above what they received for work $16,413.57
The new Board paid " " $ 26,311.55
$172,725.12

Of which $26,311.55, about $15,300 was in Specie, and the balance in State warrants and Confederate notes.
By a settlement made between the new Board and Reed & Co, managers of the foundry, there appears to be due to Reed & Co. a balance of $2,043.
The foundry building is of wood, and there is machinery and materials on hand, estimated at about $5,000.00, besides two pieces of bronze cannon.

Percussion Cap Factory.

The old Board established at Chester a manufactory for percussion caps, the payments for which from the 25th July, 1862 to April 1864, were $76,376.34
The payments on this account by the new Board were, $ 23,916.70
$100,292.29

Of which 23,916.70, $2,416.25 was in Specie, and the balance mostly in State warrants.
This factory has credit on the books of the old Board for $ 3,239,450 per-cussion caps, and for 15,000 Hall carbine caps. It has credit on the books of the new Board for 370,700 caps, and also for a lot of caps sold to the members of the 10th Legislature: number not stated.
There is on hand a small steam engine estimated at about $400. and some other property estimated at about $200.

Steamer Bayou City.

The old Board bought and fitted up this Steamer as a gun boat at a cost of $ 44,773.24 mostly in Specie and State bonds, and the proceeds of the sale of said bonds.
This boat was sold in June 1863. to the Confederate States for $5,000. in Confederate notes.
The old Board also expended in obstructing the navigation of Buffalo Bayou $ 3,029.16.

Jordan's Saline.

The new Board expended for the purchase of fixtures and the manufacture of salt, at this, through N. H. Amory, agent, mostly in Confederate notes, in 1864; $ 45,945.88. We can find no account what became of the salt manufactured. One agent was sent by the Provisional Government to look after this establishment, & he found it in a very dilapidated condition and going to ruin. He sold the fixtures and materials for $1100 — $250 in cash, and $850. in a promissory note due in twelve months.

Purchase of Arms.

The old Board purchased —

2	Nichols guns from N. B. Board,	$3.000
199	Rifles of U S Manufacture.	6.617
650	Guns of Billups K Haswell,	21.160
750	" " Whitemore K Campbell	20.734
249	Guns of U N Pitts	2.093

Purchase of Ordnance Stores.

In addition to articles included in the foregoing purchases of goods, the old board purchased from Crockett & Bell, Saltpetre & Sulphur amounting to (But the quantity is not stated) $6.657.60

They also purchased from A. Lockett 959 lbs. Sulphur 234.25

From Constantine Foster 229½ lbs Powder 284.37

" Richardson, Lead and powder amounting to 1.469.84

(The quantity not stated)

From Travis powder Company 842 lbs powder, 1.059.00

" Dana Curtis powder Company 1920 lbs powder, 3.841 57

Tyer, Lee's agency.

It appears that Tyer, Lee was an agent of the old board for the exploration of Cotton, and for collecting and transporting Salt from the Salt Lakes in the Southwestern part of the State; but no connected and detailed account of his operations. There is a balance against him on the books of $5.592.96.

The records of the old board exhibit a balance due from A. R. Sims of $665. for tanning material, to be paid in leather.

United States Bonds and Coupons.

The whole amount received from the Treasury by the old board was 634 bonds, due 1st January 1865 — $634.000.

With Coupons amounting to — $132.700

Making altogether — $766.700

They were placed in the hands of several agents for sale or exchange, rendering unable to use them, returned them. The proceedings appears to have been the final disposition of them:

Forty four bonds, with 176 Coupons not matured, and 54 matured Coupons, amounting to $44.750, were sold by Gen Alexander for the old board for $35.022.50 and the Governor drew for $1.113.50 for making the sale.

The old board, previous to the first of July, 1862, placed in the hands of Allen & Brothers of Atchison, Kansas, for sale or exchange, 20 bonds with 120 Coupons not matured, and 80 matured coupons, amounting to $27.500. This house sent to New York and sold the 180 matured coupons, amounting to $4500 for $3.691, besides the expenses of selling. They sent the old board 500 Blankets 218 dozen pairs of Shoes, 314 dz pairs of wool sacks, which with charges and freight to Dana Curtis and $2362 in Specie, were received in full payment.

The 20 bonds and Coupons not matured, amounting to $23.000. appears to be still held by Allen & Brothers subject to the payment of a draft of $10.000, submitted by the old board to be cashed. It is possible there may be 2 or 3 and perhaps 36 more coupons of $25. each in the hands of this firm, but the bonds and pieces of old board cause this doubt to exist.

The old board placed in the hands of Wm. H. Fowler & Co. on the 11th of April 1862. 300 bonds with 1800 Coupons not matured, and 454 matured, amounting to $35.712.50 with instructions to take them to Europe, and sell or use

They took them to Europe, where they sold 905 of the recovered Coupons for about 1740 pounds Sterling. Subsequently they made a sale of 149 bonds, with the Coupons not recovered attached thereto, for 77½ cents on the dollar, partly for cash and partly on time: the pay-notes were all made and deposited with the bankers of Swisher &c. They had invested about $10.000 of the money in goods, when the purchasers of the bonds becoming alarmed in regard to the legal rights of Swisher &co, to dispose of them, instituted a suit in the English Chancery Court to rescind the contract and procure a return of the money. To this suit Swisher &Co. and Wm. Droege of Manchester England, through whome the sale had been effected, were made defendants, and the money not used, in the purchase of goods, which was said but about $10.000, was enjoined in the hands of the bankers to await it's decision. The arrangement was afterwards made between Swisher &co. and Droege, by which the latter deposited in bank the $10.000 which had been used, and was to retain control of the 151 bonds not sold with the Coupons attached thereto, to indemnify him against loss in the Suit. A further agreement was made between Swisher &Co and Droege, by which the goods that had been purchased, with other goods afterwards purchased, were consigned to the firm of Droege Oelling &Co of Matamoras, to be there delivered to Swisher &Co. whenever they should pay for them. To this the whole 300 bonds, with the Coupons due after the 1st of July 1862. amounting to $337.500 are now awaiting the decision of this suit. Swisher &Co. claim no interest in them, and the Provisional Governor has taken measures to secure them for the State; but the State will probably have to pay the Costs of the Suit, and interest upon the money paid by the purchasers.

It is understood that Swisher &Co. afterwards sold the bodies of the Coupons that matured up to July, 1862, which, with those they had previously sold, amounted to $19.175. No settlement was ever made by them with the Military board for these Coupons nor for $2.000 in Specie that the old board gave them. It is believed, however, that Swisher &Co. can be made to account with the State for the proceeds of these Coupons.

E B Nichols received from the old board to sell and account for matured Coupons amounting to $12.450, upon which he advanced $1000 in Specie. Mr Nichols has informed us that these were transmitted to Europe, but were not sold. That he would get them back and return them to the State, on the repayment of his advance.

A contract was made in January, 1865 between the new board and George W White, and John Peiles. by which the board were to give W & C. 135 of these bonds with coupons annexed amounting together to $156275. and were also to give them an order on Swisher &Co, for 76 of the bonds with coupons attached thereto, in the hands of Wm Droege. For the $156275. W & C were to deliver to the board in Austin, 25.000 pair of Cotton, at five dollars a piece, and the balance in Medicines, at the same profit as were their cost, as there should be on the cards at five dollars a piece.

For the other 7/8 bonds and coupons, W & C, were to pay the board one half in Cotton Cards and one-half in medicines at the same prices. White & Chiles as principals, and F M Chandler, W W Watts, Thomas M Bales, J N White, L D Carrington, J Worrall and Chas P Neal, as securities, gave a bond payable to the State for $156.275; Conditioned that if W & C should fail to pay the $156.275 in cards and medicines according to their contract; then W & C. should pay for the same in seven or eight per cent bonds of the State, or in State Treasury Warrants at their option. The United States bonds and Coupons to be valued at eighty cents on the dollar, and the seven and eight per cent State bonds and Treasury Warrants at par.

A similar bond for $87,400 was given by W & C. with J M Lightfoot Wm Oldham, W W Watts, J N White, and M G Patrick as securities to secure their Compliance with that part of the Contract in regard to the 7/8 bonds and coupons attached thereto.

White & Chiles received from the board on the 12th March 1865, the $156.275 in bonds and Coupons, and on the same day received an order on Swisher & Co for the 7/8 bonds and Coupons in the hands of Wm Prager but Swisher & Co. refused to deliver them.

White & Chiles wrote to the military board from San Antonio, 30th May, 1865, that they had bought part of the Cards and medicines, and shipped them from Matamoras, to the board at Austin.

George W White wrote to James P Holman, one of the board, from San Antonio, 12th June 1865, that he could not get the 7/8 bonds and Coupons in Europe: that it was important the Feds. should not get possession of the contract between W & C. and the military board, and them from doing so, he thought Holman had better withdraw it and the board, and also the receipt of W & C from the Office, or direct the Secretary, Mr Pease, to do so. White also writes that Holman ought to withdraw from the Treasurer, all the United States bonds, $57,400 of which, or 7/8 bonds and Coupons have been sold to White & Chiles. That Holman come soon Mail to know if he will, and he hopes that he will do so.

There is nothing on the Office of the board to show that White & Chiles ever delivered any of the cards or medicines under this Contract, or that they ever made any settlement for the bonds and coupons.

It is believed that the State can recover these bonds and Coupons, or their value, if the parties are able to pay it.

Governor Murrah delivered to W L Flowers, on the 5th June 1865, 25 of these bonds, with 5 coupons attached to each, amounting to $28.125. Flowers gave a receipt, which states that he received them to aid in the exportation of a lot of Cotton that John L Williams had transferred to the State to secure his indebtedness, which Cotton Flowers was appointed to take charge and dispose of on account of the State. Governor Hamilton has received from Flowers, for the State, 6 of these bonds and 20 coupons, amounting to $6.500. Flowers states, under oath, that in accordance with certain directions from Governor Murrah, he sent 19 of these bonds and 80 Coupons, amounting to $21000, to M G Johnson, to pay him to pay him for $15.000 worth of medicines and Cotton cards.

He sold and delivered to Gov Morrah for the Military board in the month of May, 1865, and that he used the balance of the Coupons, amounting to $625, to pay for his services and expenses as agent. No evidence of the purchase or delivery of these bonds or medicines is to be found in the books or papers of the Military board. We have seen M B Johnson since this affidavit was made, and he declares that he has never received these bonds and Coupons, and we believe his Statement to be correct.

N B Pearce, for the new board, sold, in May 1865, 4 of these bonds and 22 coupons, amounting to $4550.

James S Holman turned over to the agent of Genl Granger 116 of these bonds and 197 Coupons, amounting to $110.925, which have since been delivered to the Provisional Government.

Willis L Robards turned over to the agent of Genl Granger 762 of these Coupons, amounting to $19.050. These were received by Robards from C H Randolph, who held them, as the books and papers show, for the Military board. These have since been delivered to the Provisional Government.

There are 36 Coupons, amounting to $900, which we have not been able to trace, unless they are in the hands of Oliver & Brothers of Monterey, as before stated.

Contracts for exporting Cotton to Mexico in the name of the Military Board.

On the 3rd June 1864 the new Board made a contract with W G Thompson & Co, (which firm was composed of W G Thompson and Samuel Smith, a brother-in-law of N B Pearce, and for a short time J Landa was a member of the firm,) by which Thompson & Co were to purchase and ship to Mexico, for and in the name of the board, 200 bales Cotton, which they were to sell, and invest the proceeds in such goods as the board might direct, and upon the delivery of the goods to the Board at Austin, they were to receive a profit of 50 per cent on the cost and transportation. The ostensible object of the Contract seems to have been, that Thompson & Co, should, with their own means, purchase and ship to Mexico in the name of the Board, 200 bales of cotton, sell, and invest the same in goods, for which, upon delivery at Austin, the Board were to pay, with a profit of 50 per cent upon the cost and transportation. The result of the operation seems to have been, that J Landa, of New Braunsfels, furnished the cotton of which he was the owner; it was taken to Mexico as Military Board Cotton, where it was sold, and two-thirds of the profits, about $600, were paid to Thompson & Co, and Landa received the other third, with the first cost of the Cotton.

Between the 26th of August and the 16th of September 1864 the Board Consigned to Thompson & Co, at Rio Grande City, 88 bales of its own Cotton, to be forwarded and sold, and afterwards, up to the 12th December 1864, the Board Consigned three 57 bales, making 145 bales in all, the nett proceeds of which amounted to $16.995 99, and were received by Thompson & Co. Thompson purchased, mostly in the latter part of Oct 1864 goods for the Board, the first cost of which was $6.065.29.

for which goods, with duties, charges, freights, interest, and a profit of $4.83370, the Board allowed them on Settlement $14.7728.

Contract with Pulliam, Ward & Smith.

On the 11th Dec 1864, the new Board make a contract with R P Pulliam A J Ward, and P R Smith, by which the Board appointed D W Heard its agent, to purchase and send to Mexico, in the name of the Board, 2000 bales of Cotton, P W & S. to furnish the means and pay all expenses, the Cotton to be delivered to P W & S., as their absolute property, when it arrived in Mexico.

Pulliam, Ward & Smith were, without awaiting for the exportation of the Cotton, to procure and deliver to the board at Austin 30 000 pair of Cotton Cards, without backs, but with all the leather, tacks and thing necessary to fit them on backs properly. If P W & S. failed to introduce the cards, unless prevented by the public enemy or unavoidable accidents, they were to forfeit one half the cotton, or the proceeds thereof, that might be purchased or disposed of, up to the time that the failure to comply might be declared.

It appears that 1692 were exported, ostensibly under this Contract, 170 of which were Consigned to Saml Smith, at Rio Grande City, the brother in law of (M B Bruce, a member of the Board, 136 to E Eastburn at Eagle Pass: 164 to Wilmore & Co, at Matamoras, 115 to A J Ward & Co Rio Grande City, and 386 to Sapsington & Owings Eagle Pass. The records of the Board do not show to whom the other 727 bales were Consigned D W Heard says the 386 bales Consigned to Sapsington & Owings were their own property, and that they agreed to pay Pulliam, Ward & Smith 30 dollars a bale for the privilege of exporting them under this Contract, but only a part, $7.370, was paid. Sapsington & Owings Showers; would that they paid the whole amount, $11.580. It does not appear that Pulliam, Ward & Smith ever delivered any cards under this Contract, nor that any measures were ever taken by the board to recover the one half of the Cotton or its proceeds.

Contract with A M & C C Alexander.

On the 16th April 1864, a contract was made between the Board and A M & C C Alexander, by which they sold the Board, and were to deliver to its agents, at Eagle Pass, or any point that might be designated on the Rio Grande, 2000 bales of Cotton, to be exported to Mexico in the name of the Board, and then returned to the Alexanders, upon their paying seventy dollers per bale in Specie, for which they were to receive from the Board an equal amount in Confederate notes. It is supposed that a large amount was exported under this contract, but no report of the agent of the Board can be found, except one, for the month of April, 1865 in which month 233 bales, weighing 121419 lbs were exported. The Board accounts for no thing received under this Contract, although $3.961 ought to have been received for the Month of April, 1865.

Other Contracts were made with the Alexanders, but we do not find that any action was had under them

Contract with A Groesbeck & C M Alexander.

On the 21st Nov 1864, Groesbeck & Alexander were appointed agents of the Board. They sold to the Board 500 bales of Cotton, which they were to export to Mexico in the name of the Board, but as they were cot and deliver to Jose San Roman, at Matamoras. The Cotton to be sold by direction of the Board, and G & A. were to have the proceeds, except seven Cents a pound, which was to be paid to the Board, for which G & A were to receive 8 per cent. State bonds. The Contract was afterwards Changed to 7 per cent. State bonds. It is supposed that most if not all of this Cotton was exported as Military Board cotton, but nothing is accounted for by the Board under this Contract.

A Contract was made with R T Llewellyn, by which he was to export 200 bales in the name of the Military Board, and introduce machinery for manufacturing purposes.

A similar contract was made with the Chappell Hill Manufacturing Company, for 300 bales.

It appears that similar Contracts were made with the following persons and Companies, but the contracts cannot be found, as is the case with many papers of the new Board, once in the Office:

Henry Runge; J D Henderson; W T & J M Williams;
Cairo Manufacturing Company; Chandler & Johnson;
Dallas Manufacturing Company; for 300 bales; Brazos Manufacturing Company; Trinity Mills Company; Johnson & Dewy;
Osgood & Commander; Lauda & Co.

Cotton could be exported for the State or for the Military Board, but the Confederate military authorities permitted no other exportations, unless an equal quantity was delivered to them by the exporters. Under these Contracts; but there is nothing in the office to show that the State received any benefit from them, in the introduction of machinery, or in any other way.

The old board kept an account showing the dispositions of the goods they bought, the greater portion of which were sold to the Confederate Government.

There appears to have been goods on hand in April, 1864, when the new board organized, amounting to $24.758.81

But, with the exception of one article, cotton cards, amounting to $4.957.81, only a few Hundred dollars worth appears to be accounted for by the new board. And it is impossible to ascertain from their records what became of them.

The new board kept an account purporting to show their purchases of goods, amounting to about $33.183.09: but their records only show how they disposed of about $9.108.85 of them.

We have been informed by W. T Johnson, that he sold and delivered to the new board in May 1865, cotton cards and medicines, amounting to $15.000, but no account of the goods, nor any reference to them, is to be found in the records of the board.

A small amount of goods, including a small lot of Stationery, was found in the Store room of the board, when the Provisional Government was organized, which goods, with the exception of the Stationery and also another lot of goods turned over to the Provisional Government,

and supposed to have been the property of the military board. Some have been sold at public sale, and only realized about $700. The stationery which was kept for use is estimated to be worth not exceeding $100.
N.B Pearce, one of the members of the board, has presented to us a statement, recently made, which attempts to account for a portion of this large quantity of goods, and declares the balance to have been stolen; but this statement is very unsatisfactory, and is not supported by proper vouchers.

Cotton operations of new Board.

There should been, from the best data we can obtain, cotton brought by the old board, en route for exportation to Mexico when the new board organized, which is not hereinbefore accounted for, amounting to 73 bales. Of this the new board accounts for:

Sold by John L Williams,	212 bales	
" " A J Ward,	7 "	
" to N B Brady,	5 " making	54 bales
Which leaves not accounted for:		19 "

The new board purchased:

From John Echols	94 bales	
" John Ewing	40 "	
" C W Garrett	34 "	
" L Fellman	98 "	= 266 Bales

They account for:

Sold by Stoddard, Saw Antonio,	29 Bales	
" " John Twohig " "	14 "	
" " Thompson & Co Rio Grande City	65 "	
" " A J Ward & Co,	73 "	
" " John L Williams, Eagle Pass	30 " = 211 "	
Which leaves not accounted for:—		55 Bales

49 of these, weighing 23676 lbs, a part of the Echols lot were forwarded by the employees of the board, and left Saw Antonio for Eagle Pass early in June, 1864, of which the board was advised; but we cannot ascertain what has become of it.
The other six bales N B Pearce says was part of the Fellman lot; and he has informed us, within the last few days, that Mr John Twohig, on the 13th May last directed his agent in Matamoros to sell an equal amount of a lot of cotton belonging to him, and invest the proceeds to supply the place of this. The balance of the Fellman lot was exported as long ago as September and October, 1864, and was sold in Matamoros, some in December, 1864, and the residue as early as March, 1865, and brought a fraction over 21 cents a pound after paying all charges; and there appears to be no cause why this was not exported and sold at the same time.
The quantity Mr Twohig directs to be sold is 2803 lbs, which is supposed to have been the weight of this lot, and the board should account for it at that rate, which would be $588.63.
In regard to the 49 bales, it should have reached Eagle Pass its destination, in June 1864, and would have sold there in Dec so as to have brought at least 14 cents a pound after paying all charges. The board should account for it at that rate which would amount to $3,314.64.

In regard to the 19 bales of old brand cotton, they cannot properly be held to be same accountable, as some of the agents who had charge of part of it, were not of their own selection, having been employed by the old board.

We notice that the correspondence of the new board with the cotton agents, is most of it missing from the office, as also most of the original Bills of lading, while no important papers of the old board are missing, though both were in the same State of confusion when taken possession of.

Since for the board, under the circumstances of the country, should be chargeable with the large amount of goods not accounted for; is a proper subject for inquiry.

We notice the following errors in their books: In the credits, in their Cash, Specie account, for items improperly credited and two credited, $1360. They have failed to account for 34 Coupons of 8 per cent State bonds, due on and before January, 1865, which came into their possession with the bonds $1360

They have only accounted for $5478.65 on the nett proceeds of the Pettigrew Cotton sold, which they debited, on their settlement with Jones, that it brought, nett, $10.185 05, and they are properly charged with the difference, $1686.43.

James T Nelson, one of the members of the new board, turned over to the agent of Gen Granger 17 of the 8 per cent State bonds with coupons due first July, 1865, and certificates $7210 in Confederate notes; $2.6124 in certificates for new issue of Confederate notes, and $1.445 in State warrants - all of which have since been delivered to the Provisional Government. This however, does not change the state of their accounts, as they owed the State for the last amount, and the other amounts they had credited for, when they charged them to their agent Freeman, by whom they were really turned over.

The cash, Specie account, and the Coupon account were both balanced, on the books, when we commenced our examination. N D Sears and James T Nelson then had free access to the books and papers, for the purpose of explanation, but they have thrown but little light upon them. Since their attention was called to the above errors, they have prepared a new Cash and Coupon account, in which they claim a small balance due to the board. This account is recently made - is accompanied by receipts newly signed, differs radically with the charges and credits on the books, and is entirely unsatisfactory. They have also prepared statements in regard to the Cotton, which are equally unsatisfactory.

We recapitulate what the new board, are accountable for, viz;

Errors in their Cash, Specie account	$1360.00
Coupons of State Bonds not accounted for	1360.00
Difference between what they claimed the Pettigrew Cotton brought, and what they owe	1686.43
	$4406.43
They should also be held accountable for 6 bales of Cotton, not accounted for, as above stated,	588.63

Amt Forwarded $5195.06

Amt. brot. Forward	$195.06
For the 49 bales, as above stated.	331.44
For $17½ a bale on the 233 bales of cotton exported by C. W. & C. C. Alexander, according to the terms of the Contract	3.911.00
To which add amount recently reported by Sal. S. Holman as received by him for pcent. of the 14 bales, before stated as sold by John Twohig, and not before accounted for:	305.79
	$12.521.29

Governor Murrah's Cotton Operations.

An act was approved 10th December, 1863, which authorized the Governor to sell $2.000.000 of State bonds, to bear an interest not exceeding six per cent, the interest to be payable at the same time and in the same manner as the principal. The payment of the said bonds to be made in and secured by the cotton then belonging, or which might afterwards belong, to the state. the price to be fixed by the Governor and specified on the face of the bonds, and to be delivered free of carriage at any port in Texas not in possession of the enemy, required by the holders of the bonds, except such ports as lie north of Pass Cavallo, the State to pay all export duties; but if the owners of the bonds should fail to demand the cotton before the expiration of six months after a treaty of peace between the United State and the Confederate States, then the bonds might be discharged in money. The Governor was authorized to dispose of these bonds in Europe, and the money raised by their sale was to constitute a special fund for the defence of the State, to repel invasion and to procure machinery for manufacturing.

Another act was approved 11th December, 1863, which authorized the Governor to purchase the Cotton necessary to meet the payment of the above named bonds, and appropriated $2.000.000 for that purpose. Should there not be funds in the Treasury to meet the appropriation, or should the Governor deem it advisable to use the lands of the State to effect the objects of the act, then he was authorized to issue bonds of the State payable from 6 to 12 years after the war, redeemable at the pleasure of the State for $2.000.000 bearing interest at 7 per cent from date of their negotiation, payable in Specie 12 months after the close of the war, and semi-annually thereafter, until the payment of the principal. The holders, at their pleasure, to have the privilege of receiving the par value of the bonds in land Scrip of the State at fifty cents an acre.

Governor Murrah seems to have disorganized both of these acts, and proceeded early in February, 1864, to raise money by the purchase and sale of cotton under a system which he thus describes in his Message to the Legislature of the 11th May 1864.

The Vendor transports his Cotton to the State, and under the authority of the State transports it to the Rio Grande at his own expense and risk. He then retains one half for his own use, and receives 7 per cent. State bonds for the other half at its Specie value at that point, less the actual cost

Of transportation. The transportation west of the Brazos River not to cost over one-fourth of the value of the cotton in that market. Where the vendor cannot export the cotton, the State pays him for it in State bonds at its value when purchased for exporting a like quantity, under the protection of the State, for themselves. The deviations from this plan are to a limited extent, and admitted only to secure necessary transportation."

In response to a resolution of the Senate, the Governor says, 17th May 1864, he had appointed but one purchasing agent, E B Nichols, to purchase and dispose of this cotton. He is the agent of the State, he is strictly responsible for the purchase and disposal of the cotton, and cotton can be exported or disposed of only through him.

We have not been able to find in the Executive records the original appointment of E B Nichols as agent, but we find with the report of Mr Nichols what purports to be a copy of it, dated 15th February 1864, by which Mr Nichols was authorized to appoint sub-agents as he might deem necessary.

From a report of Mr Nichols to Governor Murrah, dated Austin, May 13th 1865—

It appears that 8102 bales cotton were exported under this plan belonging to the State,

Through T C Armstrong, Sub agent at Laredo Rio Grande City & Brownsville		$70.837.69
" John L Williams, Sub agent at Eagle Pass,		101.674.50
" J B Root, Sub agent at Houston,		39.153.68
		$211.665.87

for purchased for which 7 per cent State Bonds were to be given as follows:

On account of T C Armstrong's office,	$ 65.484.39
On account of John L Williams Office,	100.186.72
On account of J B Roots Office,	29.519.18
	$195.190.29

It appears that certificates for State bonds were given by the several agencies for the above amounts.

The Comptroller's books show that there has been certificates taken up and 7 per cent State bonds issued therefor to the amount of $41.569.72 being 45 bonds, together with accumulating to that sum, and that certificates have been filed, and bonds made and signed therefor, but not yet delivered, to the amount in 20 bonds of 14.570.90

The balance of the certificates are yet outstanding, to the amount of 139.049.67

$195.190.29

Of the above amount of $211.665.87, coming to the State from the Sale of the Cotton, the report of Mr Nichols shows that there was remitted Governor Murrah,

By John L Williams,	$ 35.513.05
" T C Armstrong,	10.000.00
" E B Nichols,	34.700.00
	$ 80.213.05
That there yet remains in Nichols' hands which he claims to be sufficient to pay his expenses and salary, and other claims outstanding.	8 053.18

Amt Forward $88266.23

Amt Forwarded. $85.266.23

That there was loaned to the Confederate Government, and delivered to its Agent, W W Perkins. 10.000.00

That there was used for the expenses of Armstrong's agency. 7.841.44

That there was lost by sale of exchange. 243.07

That there is remaining in John L Williams' hands. 66.161.45

Out of which he claims a credit of $12.408.46 for freight and expenses on 449 bales, washed away by the overflow of the Rio Grande, and for $100 paid the Houston agency, and for office expenses, amt not stated.

The amount realized at the Houston agency, 39.153.18

was used in paying the expenses of the office, and in paying Ball, Hutchings & Co for 800 Enfield rifles that Governor Murrah delivered to Genl Magruder, on his pledge that they should not be taken out of Texas without the consent of the Governor, and that the Confederate Govt should return them to the State after the war. The invoice of these rifles amounted to $38.700.

$211.663.87

Of the $80.213.05 remitted to Governor Murrah, the books of the Treasurer's office show that the Governor deposited with him only $74.974.87, of which $12.762.82 were placed to the credit of Special Loan Tax account, and $12.212.05 to the credit of Frontier Protection account.

Of the 449 bales before alluded to as washed away by the overflow of the Rio Grande 208 belonged to the State, and 241 to the vendors between in possession of the State agents, to be exported across the river, and the vendors claim that they were entitled to be paid for it by the State, because they had delivered it under their contract, and that the loss was occasioned by the inability of the State, at that time, to export it. Should the State assume the liabilities contracted on account of the rebellion, here is the foundation for a demand of from twenty five to thirty thousand dollars.

Depositions prove the report of Mr Nichols, that 179 bales of this cotton were recovered by Col Armstrong, at and below Laredo, was damaged condition, and disposed of by him, the net proceeds of which were $7.317.86; of which he paid to Mr Nichols $3.573.62, and to John L Williams $3796.24, but it does not appear that either has ever accounted for these amounts to the State, or to the owners. It also appears that John L Williams recovered 75 bales in Round condition, of which 31 bales were claimed by Houston & Chandler, as being theirs. The balance of the 75 bales do not appear to have been accounted for by Williams; nor has Williams ever accounted for the damaged cotton recovered by him at or near Eagle Pass, although he informed Mr Nichols that whole quantity recovered by himself and Mr Armstrong realized about 25 per cent of its original value at Eagle Pass.

We notice that neither the report of Mr Nichols, nor the reports of his subagents

Eagle Pass, Laredo, Rio Grande City and Brownsville, state to whom the Cotton was sold. The price for which it was sold varies from 6 to 26 and 28 cents per pound.

It would seem, from the terms of Mr Nichols' appointment, that he is responsible for the acts of said agents, and such was the opinion of Governor Murrah, as expressed in his correspondence, although he took measures to secure and collect the balance remaining in Williams' hands. Williams made assignments to Governor Murrah of large lots of Cotton and several stocks of goods, but nothing has yet been received, and it is not probable that any considerable amount will be received for the State, either from the Cotton or the goods.

Governor Hamilton has made efforts to secure some portion of this Cotton and of these goods, but thus far without success.

Another cotton operation of Governor Murrah was the appointment of Williams L Sloan, in Feby 1865, as the agent of the State, to superintend the purchase and exportation, by sea and over land, to Mexico, of Cotton and other products of the Country, and selling the same in foreign market, and introducing the articles necessary for the supply and defence of the State. Sloan states that, under instructions from the Governor, he exported, on the account of the State, to Mexico, for Thomas H Simmons, special agent of the State, 15 bales of Cotton, on the 20th, 23rd and 24th May, 1865. Governor Murrah afterwards delivered to Sloan an obligation of said Simmons to pay into the Treasury of the State 40,000 dollars, in instalments 20,000 dollars on the 1st June, 1865, 10,000 dollars on the 15th June and 10,000 dollars on 1st July— the said Simmons to have the privilege of exporting to Mexico, on the account of the State, 2,000 bales of Cotton, transferred to the State by John L Williams. Sloan states that Simmons resides in New Orleans. His orders are to collect from him a pro rata account of the bond for the Cotton exported, but that he has collected nothing from him. This bond has been delivered to the Provisional Government.

Sloan also states, that on the 25th May, 1865, he bought from Ed Hall 215 bales of cotton, which he shipped for Mexico in the name of the State, giving Hall a draft on the proceeds for the purchase money. Part of this Cotton he states was stolen on the road, and he afterwards resold to Hall the interest of the State in payment of the draft. He says that he neither received nor made anything for himself on the State by the transaction.

He also purchased from John Twohig, and exported to Mexico, 197 bales of Cotton, on the 24th May 1865, in the name of the State. This he afterward accounted to Twohig for 200 dollars in money and about 1000 dollars in goods. He states that these are all his operations under his agency that he used no money of the State in connection with it, paid his own expenses, and received nothing but actual & stated salary. The real object of this agency would seem to have been to collect twenty dollars a bale for the privilege of exporting Cotton in the name of the State; but the State appears to have derived no benefit from it, unless something may be collected on Simmons' obligation.

Cotton exported by Directors of Penitentiary.

Pen attention having been called to the fact that a large amount of Cotton had been exported to Mexico by the Directors of this institution, we applied to them for an account of their exportations, which they sent us from which it appears that they exported 957 bales.

The Directors agreed to pay Contractors one half of the cotton delivered for account of the Penitentiary, at Eagle Pass or Laredo, reserving the right to sell or take the cotton at San Antonio, paying a per centage amount for hauling, if deemed advisable. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining funds at San Antonio, they thought it best to take the cotton on account at the Rio Grande, and pay the Contractors their part of it, at its estimated value; to which they agreed.

The Directors report that they sold at Laredo and Rio Grande City 231 bales, to cover the expenses. 317 bales were sold by A Ehrard, at Matamoras which brought $462613, also 97 bales by the Penitentiary, brought $126309. 263 bales were shipped by A Ehrard, and 44 were remaining in his hands at last advices; not having received accounts of sales of the 263 bales shipped, they say they are unable to make a full report.

It appears that the Financial Agent has drawn drafts on A Ehrard, in favor of parties who had credited the Penitentiary to nearly the amount of the Cotton sold, and the estimate of that shipped, as well as that not sold at last advices. It was supposed, however, that there would be a small balance coming to the Penitentiary on final settlement of the transaction.

Governor Lubbock.

It appears that Gov Lubbock drew from the Treasury, in specie, under an act approved 6th January 1862, appropriating money to transport clothing and other contributions to Volunteers $ 5.000

He also drew, in specie, under an act approved 13th January 1862 appropriating Money for a Hospital fund, 15.000

He also drew, in State Warrants, under an act approved 8th January, 1862 appropriating Money for a Hospital fund, 81.8321

He also drew, in State Warrants, under an act approved 21st Janry, 1862, appropriating money for the Payment of Volunteers called out by the Governor or Committee of Safety, and for the defence of the State, 11.671.35

No vouchers appear to have been filed showing how any of these sums were expended.

Governor Murrah.

It appears that Gov Murrah drew, in Confederate Notes, from the Treasury, under an act approved 15th Dec. 1863 appropriating money for a Hospital Fund. 10.500.

He also drew, in Confederate Notes, under an Act approved 21st January 1862, appropriating money for the payment of Volunteers called out by the Gov or Committee Safety and for the defence of the State 5.380.

In this case also, no vouchers appear to have been filed, showing in what manner the money was expended.

Quarter Master General's Office.

It appears that W C Walsh, late Quarter Master General of the State, turned over to the agents appointed by Gen Granger, $385,328.83 in State Treasury Warrants, $12,530 in Confederate Notes, and an agreement with John T Heller, in relation to a lot of wagons, mules and harness, all of which were the property of the State, and have since been surrendered to the Provisional Govmt. The State Warrants and Confederate Notes have been deposited in the State Treasury, and the wagons, mules and harness have been sold, and the proceeds paid into the State Treasury.

State Treasury.

One of the three keys to the vault of the State Treasury was said to have been lost or Stolen, when the safes in the Treasurer's office were broken open in June 1865, so that the vault could not be unlocked. In order to preserve the iron door and the locks, which are very expensive, it was thought best to take out the Stone arch over the door, where the vault could be entered through the aperture. In this way, Mr Raymond, who was formerly State Treasurer, ascertained, that the center lock, the Key of which was missing could be taken off, when the other two Keys would unlock the door. This course was pursued, and an entrance into the vault effected, after about four days labor of a Stone mason, with all the tools he required. The arch has since been restored, and the vault is as secure as it was originally.

The only articles of Value found in the Vault, which belong to the State, were a small lot of specie, some 10 per cent interest bearing State Warrants, and some bonds of rail road Companies, given to the School fund.

The Specie Consisted of 2 Mexican dollars,		2.00
1097 German thalers, valued at 65 cts each		713.05
42 Nonnumerical dollars, valued at 90 cts each,		37.80
8 Swaath quarters, valued at 20 cts each		1.60
1 Swedish Silver Coin Valued at		.67
1 Chile " " "		.50
1 Guilder " " "		.20
11 Five franc pieces " " 95 cts each		57.95
Lot of dimes and half dimes		5.05
		$1068.02

These thalers appear to have been in the Treasury for years, and were originally taken at 75 cts. each, and were so charged C A Randolph, the late Treasurer, consequently he should be credited with $1.177.72.

Of the 10 per cent interest bearing State warrants $11.239.71, including interest to the time they were paid in, belong to the School fund.

$12.23839, including, as above stated, were received on account of University land sales.

The following is a description of the rail road Company bonds, viz:

Ten bonds of the Houston and Texas Central Rail road Company

for $450.000. Credited with $18.000 paid on the principal, with 90 Coupons, 83 of which amounted to $210.845.99 - 1 Cancelled and 6 blanks.
Ten bonds of the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railroad Company for $420.000. Credited with $12.000 paid on the principal; with 64 Coupons, 55 of which amount to $99.755. and cancelled.
One bond of the Washington County Railroad Company for $66.000. Credited with $28.983, paid on the principal; with 10 Coupons amounting to $35.640, the last Coupon falling due, blank.
Six bonds of the Houston Tap and Brazoria Railroad Company for $300.000, Credited with $4.200 dollars, paid on the principal, and 61 Coupons, 55 amounting to $43.800 dollars - 3 to $4, 105 dollars and 85 cents, and 2 for 339 dollars and 34 cents, each, and 1 blank.
Eight bonds of Texas and New Orleans Railroad Company for $130.500 dollars, with 80 Coupons, amounting to 243.985 dollars and 8 cents.
One bond of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company for 150.000 dollars, with 10 Coupons of 900. each - 9.000 dollars.
The original principal of these bonds was $1.814.500 - deducting the credits, the present principal is $1.753.317 dollars.
Of the principal paid, 27.683 dollars was from the Washington County Railroad Company, in State Treasury warrants, which have been cancelled and a State bond issued therefor, bearing 6 per cent interest from its date, 13 May, 1845, under the provisions of an act approved 15th Nov. 1854.
The other 35.520 dollars, were the accumulations of the annual percentage of 2 per cent. upon the loan, required to be paid by the original loan law of 1854, for the purpose of creating a sinking fund to be applied to the payment of the loan at its maturity, and which under the provisions of an act approved 13th February, 1860, were credited on the bonds, and carried to the principal of the School fund to be loaned again.
Under the provisions of two acts - one approved 15th Dec 1858, and the other 13th of Nov. 1854, there had been paid in January accounts, on account of the interest on these bonds 292.704 dollars and 13 cents, which have been cancelled and a State bond issued therefor to the the School fund, bearing 6 per cent interest from its date, 13th May 1845. These two State bonds - one for 27.433 dollars, and the other for 292.704 dollars and 13 cents, were received over to the agent of Geo Granger by Willis Rolands, on having been received from C M Randolph, and have since been deposited in the State Treasury.
We omitted to state, that there was also issued in the bond 294 dollars and 15 cents in a Separate Voucher which Patrick O'Bannon, who was clerk &c.
Mr Randolph, State was also deposited by Mr J S Holman certain said sheets the proceeds of a collection made by young ladies for the benefit of Soldiers' families.

C. M. Randolph late State Treasurer.

Mr Jefferson from the heads of the Offices of the late State Treasurer, on which being to have been kept correctly, that there should have been in his possession, when the late State Government ceased its operations, 27.525 dollars cash of specie, and 800 dollars in Louisiana bank bills, to the credit of the several accounts annexed below:

	Specie	Lo. Bank Bills.
State Treasurer,	2.703.50	
School Fund,	6.722.65	
Literary Do.,	3.592.61	
Settlement of Titles	2.370.90	$800.
Contingent	2.635.71	
Lawyers' Fees,	775.66	
Special State Tax,	5.765.11	
University-Fund Sales,	57	
	27.525.24	800 dollars

He is entitled to a credit for the Specie found in the vault of 117.72
For specie delivered to Willis Roberts by him. 9378.65
$10.556.37

Cloud for-Louisiana bank bills delivered to Roberts 500 dollars; which Loans & Taxes due from Randolph to the State, in specie & 6.762 dollars and 87 cents.

The 800 dollars in Louisiana bank bills and 6.616 dollars and 15 cents of the Specie, delivered by Randolph to Roberts, were turned over by Roberts & James St Raymond, the agent of Jean Granger; who afterwards paid over the same to the Provisional Government. The balance of this Specie 2.762 dollars and 50 cents, was used by Roberts in paying a guard for the protection of the State property at Newlin, until it was taken possession of by the agents of Jean Granger.

State Debt. Eight per cent Bonds.

Sixteen State bonds for 1000 dollars each, bearing 8 per cent interest, were issued under an act approved 20th March 1861 16.000

Nine Hundred and Seventeen State Bonds for 1000 dollars each, drawing a like interest, were issued under an act approved 8th April 1861. 17 of these last bonds were returned by the Military Board and are now in the Treasury. It was found mutilated as the doors the safes in the Treasurers office were broken open, and is now in the Treasury. This leaves in circulation 899. 899.000

There are coupons of these bonds, due since 1st July 1865, still outstanding and unpaid, amounting to 10.240
Coupons of these bonds due 1st July 1865; and 1st Jan. 1866 73.200
$98.440

The first 16 bonds above referred were issued under "an act to provide for the funding of the debt created for the protection of the frontier" approved 20th March 1861; and the Treasury warrants surrendered and cancelled for these bonds,

were all given for Liabilities of the State incurred prior to the 2nd day of March, 1861.

Of the other 917 State Bonds, 595 were used by the Military Board in their various operations; 28 were used in paying clerks Contracted under the authority of the Convention of 1861, and 294 were used in funding State warrants.

Mr. J. A. Maynard, late chief clerk of the Comptroller's Office, and Mr. John O'Gorman, have, at our request, made a careful examination of all the State warrants surrendered and cancelled for these 294 bonds, and their report is herewith submitted, from which it appears that only $92,601.67 of these warrants were issued for State Liabilities incurred prior to the 2nd 1861; that $34,771 of them were for mileage and per diem of members of the Legislature, and $70,829.38 were for other civil expenditures of the government all subsequent to the 2nd of March 1861, and $95,799.95 for military Claims subsequent to the 2nd of March 1861.

The result is, that 92,601 dollars and 67 cents of the consideration of these bonds is for Liabilities incurred before the 2nd of March 1861, 105,600 dollars and 38 cents for civil expenditures after that date, and 115,799 dollars and 95 cents for military expenditures after that date.

It may be said that the old Military Board paid into the treasury some of the Confederate notes they received from the sale of a portion of these bonds, but the amount they paid in was much less than they drew from the treasury.

Seven per cent. State Bonds issued for Gov Moore's Cotton Operations.

It appears, by the report of E. B. Nichols, who was the agent authorized to issue certificates for these bonds and to appoint Sub-agents, that certificates were issued by him and his sub-agents, amounting to. 195.190.29

Certificates for bonds surrendered to the Comptroller, and 45 bonds have been issued and delivered for. 41.569.72

Certificates for bonds surrendered and 20 bonds issued, but not delivered for; 14.570.90

There are Certificates still outstanding for; 139.049.67

195.190.29

We are not able to state the precise amount of interest; the bonds issued draw interest from the date of the certificates, but the report of Mr Nichols does not give their dates: it is known that some were dated as early as 7th April, 1864, and some as late as 15th May, 1865. We, therefore, calculate interest on the whole amount from 1st November 1864 to 1st January 1866. 15.940.54

211.130.83

These bonds may all be said to have been issued for purposes connected with the war

State debt to School Fund.

For United States bonds taken by military board	$ 341.000.00
" Coupons of said bonds	132.700.00
" Specie from this fund, used by the State, under act approved 6th January 1862	5.000.00
For Specie used under act approved 13th January 1862.	13.000.00
" Specie that should have been in Treasurers possession when the State Government ceased its operations,	6.927.85
For State bonds given for principal collected of Railroad fund, under act approved 15th Nov 1864	27.663.00
For State bond given for interest collected on rail road bonds, under acts approved 16th Dec 1863 and 15th Nov, 1864,	292.704.13
For 6 per cent interest on the above 2 bonds from 13th May 1865, to 1st January, 1866,	12.173.93
For Interest bearing State Treasury warrants received for money due to School fund, including the interest to the time they were received.	11237.71
	1.137.406.13

State debt to University Fund.

Under an act approved 31st January, 1860, the United States bonds, with the interest accrued thereon, belonging to this fund, were directed to be sold, and the proceeds used for State account, to be replaced as soon as that account should come into the Treasury.—

Bonds and interest were sold amounting to,	109.885.92
For Specie drawn from University land sales, used for mileage and pay of members and officers of extra session of 8th Legislature, which was directed to be replace.	9.768.62
For Specie, from university land sales, used to purchase supplies for troops on the frontier under an act approved 8th July 1861. and directed to be replaced,	25.000.00
For 10 per cent interest accruing Treasury warrants, including interest to time of payment, received for university land sales,	12.230.39
For Treasury Warrants received for University land Sales,	11.300.41
" Confederate notes received for University land Sales,	114.804.48
	$283.514.22

Fund accrued from Estates not claimed by heirs.

There was drawn from this fund, in specie, for the mileage and pay of members and officers of extra sesion of 5th Legislature 17.000.00

There should have been in possession of C. H. Randolph in specie, belonging to this fund, when the State government ceased its operations. 11870.20

$21,870.20

Escheated Estates

There should have been in the possession of C. H. Randolph, in specie, belonging to this fund, when the State government ceased operations $2.688.71

County Tax Fund.

There should have been in possession of the St Randolph. in specie belonging to this fund, when the State government ceased operations. $3.572.11

Special Loan Tax.

There should have been in possession of the St Randolph. in specie, to the credit of this loan, when the State Government ceased operations $.765 dollars and 11 cents.

Assessors' Fees.

There should have been in possession of the St Randolph. in specie to the credit of this account, when the State government ceased operations. 775 dollars and 66 cents.

Per cent interest bearing Treasury Warrants.

No register can be found in the Comptroller's office of the number and amount of these warrants issued; but from the best data to be obtained, it is believed that the whole amount issued was about 382.000 dollars, and there are still outstanding about 150.000 dollars, including interest to 1st January, 1866.

Treasury Warrants Outstanding.

It appears by a report of the Comptroller, that there were treasury warrants outstanding on the 31st August 1863, to the amount

	1.321.374.00
There has been issued since 31st Aug. 1863	1.179.550.37
	2.500.924.37
There has been paid in and cancelled since Aug 31st 1863.	611 946.47
Amount outstanding	$ 1.888. 977.90

No description in register showing been kept of those paid in and cancelled, it is impossible to say what proportion of these outstanding warrants were issued for the ordinary civil expenditures of the government, and what for purposes connected with the rebellion.

It may safely be assumed, that the whole amount outstanding were issued subsequent to the 2nd of March, 1861.

There appears to have been Treasury warrants drawn for the suspension of Soldiers families to about the amount of $ 150.000 since the 2nd of March, 1861.

The actual amount of these outstanding warrants, that were drawn for civil expenditures, and for purposes connected with the war, can only be ascertained by taking an account of the cancelled warrants and comparing it with the account of the warrants issued. This would require the time of five clerks several months. It is thought, however, that it may be safely calculated that not exceeding $ 300.000 of them were for civil expenditures, and that the twelve 100 $ 1.188.977.90 were for purposes connected with the war.

Bills for which appropriations were made, but warrants drawn. Many persons have failed to apply for warrants for amount

due under appropriations. From the best data to be obtained, this is estimated that there is yet due, of this description of debt about $150.000.

Due to the Militia.

The militia have been in service, at different times, since the commencement of the rebellion, under orders from the Governor, and it is estimated that, for their services and supplies, there are yet outstanding claims amounting to about $150.000.

Pay of Soldiers, and supplies for them.

There are in the Comptroller's office about 170 pay rolls, a portion of which have been paid, and it is known that there are other rolls not yet returned. These rolls are for Frontier service both before and during the rebellion, and for other troops before they were mustered into the Confederate service. Some of these pay rolls have been examined by Mr Patrick O'Brennan, Chief Clerk in the Treasury Office, a very competent judge of such matters, and he estimates that it will require, to pay all the claims outstanding of this description, including claims for the supply and transportation of these troops, about $3 000.000. But this is estimate is a safe one.

Confederate notes on hand.

There are on hand Confederate notes of the 1861 issue and certificates for 1861 issue, to the amount of $ 2.351.844 54
There has been in the Treasury, at all times for the last three years, enough Confederate notes to redeem all the outstanding treasury warrants, if they had been presented; but the holders have held them back, with the expectation of ultimately getting something better in payment; although the State promised nothing better when they were issued. If these are hereafter to be paid in money, then it is but just that the State should also assume and pay the amount of Confederate notes that have been placed to the credit of the several special funds, and not included in the foregoing statement of State debt, Viz:

Amount placed to the credit of the School Fund, in Confederate Notes, for one tenth of the annual revenue derived from taxation	290.703 13
To the credit of Estates not claimed by Heirs,	7.913 99
" the credit of County Surplus,	56.610.57
" the credit of Officers Fees,	415.00
" the credit of Special Loan Fax, in Confederate Notes,	164.139.90
	519.983.09

Debt of the Republic of Texas.

There is a considerable amount of the debt of the late Republic still due, which has been admitted by the State, and appropriations made for its payment.
The amount so admitted and appropriated for, but not yet paid, is about $ 110.613.23.
All the Money, bonds and coupons herein mentioned, as having come into possession of the Provisional Government have been placed in the Treasury.

Recapitulation of State Debt:

8 per cent. State Bonds and interest to 1st. January 1866,	998.440.00
7 " " " " " "	211.130.00
Due to School Fund,	1.137.406.65
" " University Fund,	283.514.22
Fund accrued from Estates not claimed,	21.870.90
" " " Escheated Estates,	2.188.71
County Tax Fund,	3.592.61
Special-Loan Tax Fund,	5.675.11
Officers Fees,	975.66
10 per cent interest warrants outstanding, estimated	180.000.00
Treasury Warrants outstanding,	1.888.99790
Debts due from appropriations not drawn,	150.000.00
Estimated amount due for Militia	150.000.00
Estimated amount due for Soldiers pay and Deserters transportation	3.000.000.00
Debt of the late Republic of Texas,	110,613.23
Amount due J. M Morey by Military Board,	7.091.14
" " Rice & Rothwell " " "	10.042.62
" " W S Reed & Co., " " "	2.043.00
Probable amount that will be claimed by individuals, for Cotton last under Governor Throckmorton's Cotton operations, say,	30.000.00
	$8.194.082.58
To which may be added amount placed to the credit of the Several Special funds in the Treasury in Confederate Notes as before stated.	519.983.09
	8.714.065.67

All of which is

Respectfully submitted.

E. M Pease,
Provisional Governor

Austin Texas, 30th Oct 1865.

State of Texas,

To A. W. Hagoffin.

Reposing confidence in your ability, fidelity and patriotism, I hereby authorize and empower you to raise and organize in the County of El Paso a Company of men for home protection under the provisions of "An Act to provide for the protection of the Frontier of the State of Texas" passed Feby 7th 1865. The said Company will act in conjunction and subordinate to the troops of the Government of the United States whenever the exigencies of the service or circumstances may bring them together;

The said Company being organized for the protection of their property and slaves are not protected from or by the Government of the State of Texas

Given under my hand and Seal of State, this 15th day of November 1865

A J Hamilton
Prov Gov of Texas.

The State of Texas

Executive Office
Austin 20th Nov 1865.

Dear Sir.

Your favored communication to me of the 15th Inst. upon the Subject of the admissibility of the testimony of freedmen in our Courts has been received and attentively read. The question as to what, in my opinion, should be the law, is easily answered. I would only refer you to my former address to the people of the State of the 11th Sept last for my views upon this Subject. But the question, as to what the law was, is not so easy to determine; and if I could settle this in my own mind, still the important question remains, what power have I to determine what the law is; That I have not been insensible to or unmindful of the change made in the rights of the freedmen (late Slaves) under our laws & change necessarily resulting from their freedom - I respectfully refer you to a paragraph contained in my Proclamation of the 8th Inst giving some general directions to the Courts. It is as follows. "All persons of Color must be protected in equality with white persons in respect to the punishment of crimes and when they are tried by virtue of indictments hereafter presented and are found guilty, the judgment of the Court must be the same as if the defendant were a white person." and referring to this in my address to the People before referred to, I said, "I have by Proclamation, instructed the Courts to protect them (freedmen) before and equality with white men in respect to the punishment of crimes. In doing so I have proceeded upon the idea that the freedom of all men of Color, as the political result of the war, must necessarily draw to it's certain rights not before enjoyed under our laws either by Slaves or freemen of Color. I regard the emancipation Proclamation of the late President of the United States made effected by the military power of the Government, as actually to secure freedom to all persons of color as equivalent to express legislation by the State emancipating the punishment of crimes committed by persons of Color; to the extent of placing all men, in this respect upon an equality."

I am also of opinion, fellow citizens, that the State ought, by express legislation, to provide for the admissibility of the testimony of persons of color in Court, in all cases subject only to the rules which apply to the testimony of white persons &c &c" — Thus far I was then prepared to go — but did not deem it my duty then nor do I now to settle details as best a doubtful judicial question. I am fully sensible of evils that may result and probably have resulted from this uncertainty. But suppose I attempt to obviate it by assuming the power to direct the Courts to receive such testimony, and they should controvert my directions, and on Supreme Court when it shall assemble hereafter, decide that I had no such power and that it was error in the District Courts to admit such testimony, what good would have been accomplished? Or suppose the Convention shall not, when it meets, take such action as I have recommended upon this subject what Court of the new State Government would be bound by any rule or order which I may prescribe? The rule, if I could prescribe one, would perish with the Provisional Government, and leave us where we now are, unless, in the meantime, some more potent power than I claim to be shall have made it permanent. This is purely a judicial question. I am not a judicial officer. There are other questions — judicial — growing out of the rebellion, affecting very greatly the interest of the people respon which I am daily consulted by letter or otherwise every day. As for example, whether <u>all the Legislation of the State</u> since the commencement of the rebellion is void? I can answer only frankly as to all political acts based upon a supposed dissolution of the Union and in furtherance of the effort to establish a new Government, for on to them, the question has been settled for me, but in respect to those which are in their character purely municipal having no reference to the political condition of the Country I cannot answer beyond acting as my Executive Officer when my Official duty requires it. But when I so act, my action does not and is not intended to bind or in any manner control the Courts in their discretion upon the same questions. They still remain judicial questions and must be judicially settled. I do not misunderstand it. I do not suppose my powers are at all clearly defined. But so far from presuming upon this for the exercise of unlimited power, I feel that it ought to restrain me within the narrowest limits likely to effect the object of my appointment — that is the reorganization of Civil Government in the State. To this end it is that I was invested with power to prescribe rules &c. To this end, and all the discretion to conserve the public peace and in a measure afford the citizen remedies for rights and redress for wrongs, I thought that I could establish no better rule than to appoint Officers as they existed under the laws prior to the rebellion. Thus I have appointed judicial Officers and directed them to observe the laws as the first. Herein alone this it seems to me that it would be, not only a departure from my own rule, thus created, but a poor compliment to the intelligent gentlemen, who have accepted the position —

District judges, for me now to assume the right to control their in their decisions in any case or region any question, whether of law or evidence which may come before them. To do so would be to degrade a judicial Officer, who ought to be independent of every department of Government, and of every influence save that of Conscience in the discharge of duties from an independent conscientious discharge of the law under his Official oath, to the position of a mere echo of Executive will. Several respectfully declare the attempt to place either these Officers or anybody in a position not only false for the present, but, in times like these, dangerous, as a precedent for the future. Judicial Officers must be left to determine, controversies, the questions presented to them under the law, without interference from any quarter, or Civil Government is a farce. Some things I shall try without any law to guide me—establish rules in some instances without reference to law, because, either there are no laws upon the Statute book upon the subject or if any inconsistable with the duty abrogated me. But beyond that I have established the body of the laws of the State as the rule to determine the rights, and redress the wrongs of the citizen, and that the Judges shall determine which the laws are. I certainly feel bound by my Sense of propriety and of duty to adhere to the rule. I do not feel competent either in respect of power or capacity to interfere, if I would. That the decisions of the Judges, were not likely to be unfavorable upon the subject presents some feature in our jurisprudence— That wrong will be done to some one, from a wrong decision, is not known either I wish it could be otherwise, but I have never supposed the great change in our domestic and political affairs now going on, could be completely effected without some trouble to all and wrong to many. I would prevent both if I had the power. I deeply regret, that at this time, when so much depends upon the good Conduct of the people white and black, that any one should do act as to produce unnecessary trouble and unnecessinds in the public mind. But if there are those who will avail themselves of present advantages to abuse the freedmen and he has not adequate redress by reason of not being allowed his oath in the Courts of the Country, the result will be wrong. The Bureaus founded by the United States (Freedmen Bureau) will apply the remedy, and this in my judgment present to the forthcoming Convention the strongest and most convincing argument for providing, for all time to come for receiving the testimony of blacks as others for what it is worth before the Courts and juries of the Country.
In the mean time the blackman is not defenceless. If he can furnish no witness but himself or one of his own color to testify to a wrong done him, then let him appeal to the nearest Officer of the Freedmen Bureau. I suppose it was to be a great measure because the Government foresaw just such a state of things as we find, that this Bureau was created, and if every well disposed citizen will give his earnest aid in the

punishment of crime by whatever tribunal State or Federal, is commensurate to the task there will at once be perceived an improvement in the public morals. Let us all be united and prudent and do whatever is remediable in our present condition will I feel confident be remedied.

I am Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
(Signed) A J Hamilton

To
J R Burns Esq
LaGrange, Texas.

Executive Office
Austin Texas 21st Nov 1865.

General.

I feel constrained to write you in regard to the condition of that portion of our State bordering on the Indian Territory - Say the Counties of Fannin, Grayson and Cook. These Counties are the scene of the very worst atrocities of the late rebellion. Most enormous crimes accused in this portion of the Country than in any other. The principal leaders in these outrages are still there and openly defy the laws and the authority of the U. S. They have had large accessions to their numbers, of late from Missouri, Arkansas and the Indian Territory until it is said & known that an organized band of five hundred (not in one body, but acting in Concert) freebooters and plunderers are infesting the Country in force. These Counties are within two hundred miles, and the good and loyal citizens are at their mercy. I have had many appeals made to me from that section for relief, but as you know God I am powerless, and more while I consider one of the best and most intelligent citizens of the State is now in durance imploring aid. I refer to Judge Bryant of Grayson County. He brings me letters from many others to the same effect. Unless they have relief, the best men of that section will leave their homes. The forthcoming election for Delegates to a convention will be but a farce, unless some protection is afforded the public officers, who are now openly defied and insulted and even threatened with violence for holding Office in subordination to the United States. What can be done General? If it is possible to send a Regiment of mounted men to that section I pray you to do so as speedily as possible. There is no section of the State, where they could, in any opinion, be profitably employed. Please inform me of

the prospect of giving them the desired help as early as may be convenient.

I am very Truly
Your Obt Servant
A. J. Hamilton

Hon Jed Hunter
Speaker
Council & Govt of Texas

Proclamation

By the Governor:

Whereas, by the Proclamation of the President of the United States, of the 17th June, 1865, it is made my duty "to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for convening a Convention, composed of delegates to be chosen by that portion of the people of the State who are loyal to the United States, and no others, for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution" of the State;

And, whereas, preparatory to convening said Convention, I did, by proclamation dated the 19th of August 1865, "prescribe certain rules and regulations whereby the oath of amnesty might be extended with the least delay and inconvenience to all persons entitled to it under the proclamation of the President of the 29th May, 1865;

And, whereas, I have reason to believe a majority of the people of the several counties in the State have rendered themselves qualified voters, by having taken the oath of general amnesty offered by the President, and having their names registered in their respective counties, as prescribed in my said proclamation of the 19th of August, 1865—

Now, therefore, I, Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me as aforesaid, do hereby order and direct that an election be held in the several counties in the State on the 8th day of January, A. D. 1866. for the purpose of electing delegates to a Convention, which is hereby ordered to convene thirty days thereafter, to wit: on the 7th day of Feby, A. D. 1866. for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution of the State which Election shall be held in accordance with the laws in force prior to the first day of March, 1861, governing elections for Representatives to the State Legislature; and the number of delegates to be elected shall be equal to the number of Representatives of the State Legislature, to which the several counties are respectively entitled, that is to say—

Ms. The counties of Jefferson, Chambers, Liberty and Orange shall elect one delegate, and counties to the Chief Justice of Liberty County.

No. 2. The counties of Liberty and Polk shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Liberty county.
No, 3. The counties of Tyler and Hardin shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Tyler county.
No. 4. The counties of Jasper and Newton shall elect one delegate, and make returns to Chief Justice of Jasper county.
No. 5. The counties of Sabine, Augustine and Sabine shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Sabine Augustine county.
No. 6. The County of Shelby shall elect one delegate.
No. 7. The county of Nacogdoches shall elect one delegate.
No, 8. The counties of Nacogdoches and Angelina shall elect one delegate, and make returns to Chief Justice of Nacogdoches county.
No, 9. The County of Houston shall elect one delegate.
No, 10. The County of Anderson shall elect one delegate.
No, 11. The counties of Trinity, Houston and Anderson shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Houston county.
No, 12. The county of Cherokee shall elect two delegates.
No, 13. The county of Rusk shall elect two delegates.
No, 14. The county of Panola shall elect one delegate.
No, 15. The County of Harrison shall elect one delegate.
No, 16. The counties of Harrison and Panola shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Harrison county.
No, 17. The county of Smith shall elect one delegate.
No. 18. The county of Davis shall elect one delegate.
No, 19. The county of Titus shall elect one delegate.
No, 20. The counties of Davis, Titus and Bowie shall elect two delegates, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Davis county.
No, 21. The county of Upshur shall elect two delegates.
No, 22. The county of Red River shall elect one delegate.
No, 23. The county of Lamar shall elect one delegate.
No, 24. The county of Hopkins shall elect one delegate.
No, 25. The counties of Lamar and Hopkins shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Hopkins county.
No, 26. The County of Wood shall elect one delegate.
No, 27. The counties of VanBuren, Kaufman and Henderson shall elect two delegates, and make returns to the Chief Justice VanBuren county.
No, 28. The county of Hunt shall elect one delegate.
No, 29. The county of Fannin shall elect one delegate.
No, 30. The counties of Fannin and Hunt shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Fannin county.
No, 31. The county of Grayson shall elect one delegate.
No, 32. The county of Collin shall elect one delegate.
No, 33. The counties of Collin and Grayson shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Collin cou

No. 34. The county of Johnston shall elect one delegate.
No. 35. The counties of Johnston and Brazoria shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Johnston county.
No. 36. The county of Harris shall elect two delegates.
No. 37. The counties of Montgomery, Grimes and Brazos shall elect two delegates, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Grimes county.
No. 38. The county of Walker shall elect one delegate.
No. 39. The counties of Leon and Madison shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief justice of Leon county.
No. 40. The counties of Freestone, Limestone and Falls shall elect two delegates, and make returns to the Chief justice of Limestone county.
No. 41. The counties of Navarro and Hill shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief justice of Navarro county.
No. 42. The counties of Ellis, Johnson and Parker shall elect two delegates, and make returns to the Chief justice of Johnson county.
No. 43. The county of Tarrant shall elect one delegate.
No. 44. The county of Dallas shall elect two delegates.
No. 45. The county of Denton shall elect one delegate.
No. 46. The counties of Cook, Montague, Wise, Jack, Young, Clay, Wichita, Archer, Wilbarger, Baylor, Throckmorton, Hardeman, Knox and Haskell shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief justice of Wise county.
No. 47. The counties of Montague, Wharton and Fort Bend shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief justice of Wharton county.
No. 48. The county of Austin shall elect one delegate.
No. 49. The county of Colorado shall elect one delegate.
No. 50. The county of Fayette shall elect one delegate.
No. 51. The county of Washington shall elect one delegate.
No. 52. The counties of Washington and Fayette shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Washington county.
No. 53. The counties of Burleson and Robertson shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Robertson county.
No. 54. The county of Bastrop shall elect one delegate.
No. 55. The county of Travis shall elect one delegate.
No. 56. The counties of Travis and Williamson shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Williamson county.
No. 57. The counties of Williamson and Milam shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Williamson county.
No. 58. The Counties of Caldwell, Hays and Blanco shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Caldwell county.

No. 59. The counties of Bell and Lampasas shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Bell county.

No. 60. The counties of McLennan and Bosque shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of McLennan county.

No. 61. The counties of Cornell, Hamilton, Comanche, Erath, Brown, Palo Pinto, Stephens, Eastland, Shackleford, Callahan, Coleman, Jones, Taylor, and Runnels shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Comanche.

No. 62. The counties of Calhoun, Victoria, Jackson, and Dewitt shall elect two delegates, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Victoria county.

No. 63. The county of Lavaca shall elect one delegate.

No. 64. The county of Gonzales shall elect one delegate.

No. 65. The county of Guadalupe, shall elect one delegate.

No. 66. The county of Comal, shall elect one delegate.

No. 67. The counties of Gillespie, Kerr, Bandera, Uvalde, Edwards, Kimball and Edwards shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Gillespie county.

No. 68. The counties of Burnet, Llano, San Saba, McCulloch and Concho, shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Burnet county.

No. 69. The counties of Goliad, Refugio and San Patricio, shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Goliad county.

No. 70. The counties of Karnes, Bee, Live Oak, Atascosa, McMullen, Frio, La Salle, Zavala and Dimmit shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Karnes.

No. 71. The county of Bexar, shall elect two delegates.

No. 72. The counties of Bexar, Medina, Uvalde, Dawson, Kinney, and Maverick, shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Bexar county.

No. 73. The county of Cameron, shall elect one delegate.

No. 74. The counties of Cameron and Hidalgo, shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of Cameron County

No. 75. The counties of Starr and Zapata, shall elect one delegate and make returns to the Chief Justice of Starr county.

No. 76. The counties of Webb, Nueces, Duvall and Encinal, shall declare delegate, and make returns to the chief justice of Nueces county.

No. 77. The counties of El Paso and Presidio, shall elect one delegate, and make returns to the Chief Justice of El Paso county.

In the districts composed of more than one county, the chief justice of the county to whom the election returns are ordered to be made as above, shall give the certificate of election to the person receiving the highest number of votes; and in all districts composed of but one county, the chief justice of that county shall receive the election returns, and give the certificate of election to the delegate elected.

The chief justices of the several counties, (in case of vacancy in that office, or incapacity or refusal of that officer to act. The county clerk of the county commissioners,) will give due notice and cause polls to be opened at the several precincts in

their respective counties, on the 5th day of January, A. D. 1866, for the election of the delegates aforesaid. They will execute duplicate returns of said election, carefully sealed up, one of which they will transmit to the Seat of Government, directed to the "Secretary of State," and endorsed "election returns for _____ County, for delegates to Convention." The other will be deposited in the office of the Clerk of the County Court.

It is hereby expressly enjoined upon all judges and managers of the election for delegates herein ordered, that no person shall be entitled to vote in said election who has not taken the oath of general amnesty prescribed by the President, and is in other qualified as prescribed by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas in force immediately before the first day of February, 1861; and it is proper to state that the selection of delegates need not be confined by the electors to their respective districts, but any one of a county or district may be chosen by the voters of said county or district to represent them in said Convention.

And should any person be elected a delegate to said Convention who has not taken said oath of Amnesty, and who positively fails and refuses to take the same, the Chief Justice are hereby prohibited from giving certificate of election to such persons: and, should any one be elected, who is embraced within any of the exceptions to the general amnesty offered by the President in his proclamation of 29th of May, 1865, and who may not have received special pardon from the President, such person will be ineligible to a seat in said Convention, and will such fact be ascertained.

In consequence of the great want of mail facilities in our State, and the uncertainty and delay of receiving communications addressed to the Judges, the Chief Justices, whose duty it is to make returns of the election as aforesaid, are hereby instructed and directed to forward said returns by the delegate elected, as above provided: Provided, nevertheless, if from any cause the Chief Justices of any of the Counties should fail to receive, or have due notice of this proclamation in time to give the notice required by law, they may still order the elections in such Counties, so as to make returns of their delegates in time for the assembling of the Convention.

The delegates elected in pursuance of this Proclamation are hereby directed to convene in general Convention in the City of Austin, on Wednesday, the 7th day of February, 1866.

In Testimony Whereof, I hereunto affix my hand and cause the seal of State to be affixed. This the 15th day of November, A. D. 1865. the year of the Independence of the United States the ninetieth and of the Independence of Texas the Thirtieth.

L. S.

(Signed) A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

Jno Hancock.
Acting Sec'y of State.

Circular.

To the Chief Justices of each County.

Executive Office
Austin Texas Nov: 17th 1865.

I respectfully request that the Chief Justice of each county in the State, in which are any considerable number of Freedmen, will, in conjunction with such of the good citizens as may feel an interest in the subject matter, take such measures, as may be necessary to call the Freedmen together at the Court Houses, or County Towns, of such counties, at the earliest day which can be fixed; and cause to be read to them the following address. And I earnestly request of every good citizen, co-operation and assistance in placing before the Freedmen, their real condition, with the one friend, and on the other; of protecting them from abuse, by such as may not be willing to respect his rights. So avoid trouble, both races must do their duty, and where either fails, the law must be enforced.

A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

Address

To the Freedmen of Texas.

Freedmen of Texas:

With the desire and purpose to benefit you, I now address you in this plain language. I earnestly request you to listen to what I have to say; for it is truth, which it concerns you to know. Your conduct during the late war was such as to raise the good opinion of all the world. During that terrible struggle, you remained quiet and peaceable spectators; although you knew that your freedom or continued slavery depended on the result. You disappointed both friends and enemies, by exercising a forbearance and Christian reliance on the wisdom and justice of God's providence, which has elevated you in the opinion of good men in every part of the civilized world. This is to day your best treasure, and I wish you to preserve it. The character which you have thus made, together with your freedom, is your wealth. I am most anxious that you will once more disappoint those who predict evil of you, and fearing that you might be misled by the counsels of bad or wicked men, I feel it my duty to you, to all of the people of Texas, and to the Government of the United States, to tell you what position you occupy in the Government—what are your rights, and what are your duties. In doing this, I shall speak plainly, for this is proper for me to speak the truth and in such language as you will understand. You are free—made so by a generous, good Government; but you must not think that freedom means more for you than it does for others. It means for you, that you have the 2:

to labor in an honest living—the right to obey the great command of God to all men, to earn, in the sweat of their face, their daily bread; This is all that freedom means for every people.

The Government of the United States has given you this freedom, and will protect you in its enjoyment. You are now under the protection of the Government, as other people are; you will be protected in all that is right; but in nothing that is wrong. This is what you have a right to expect from the Government, and what it will perform. You owe a duty to the Government, as every one does who receives its protection. That duty is to obey the laws and earn by yourselves an honest labor for your own support, and not be disturbers of the public peace by idleness and vicious habits. No people can be idle without becoming vicious. No man is a good citizen, who does not earn a living in some honest way.

I have been informed, from many sources, that you have been told, that about Christmas something would be done for you by the Government—That there would be a division of property, for your benefit—that lands, would be furnished to you by the Government and other things given to you without price. I tell you, in the name of the President, and the Government whose servant I am, that all this is false—whoever has told you this, has lied to you. The Government has given you all that it owes you—that is your freedom. If you are not willing to work for your living, you do not deserve to be free. The great mass of men, white, as well as black, have to work for a living, and those who refuse to do so, are not friends but enemies of the Government. If, then, you are friends to the Government, you will work for your living—you will obey the laws—you will not be idle and vicious—you will do your duty, and try to prove the good opinion which you have won by your good conduct in the past. You can only do this, by labor. The United States Government has no land in Texas to give you, it has no land in Texas, and none will be taken from other people to give you. The Government will do no wrong. Every man who is idle and unengaged in making an honest living, is an enemy to the Government. The Government cannot protect its enemies, and every one is an enemy, who does not obey its laws. The laws require every one to respect the property of others. If you disturb the property of others, you are enemies of the laws and of the Government, and will be treated accordingly by. The laws must be preserved. <u>They shall be preserved against every enemy, white or black.</u> You can not without means and you have no means of living by your labor, but by hiring to labor for others. This is what I would do, if this night. I have this night heard, for, in early life, I tried it myself. When you have labored long enough to buy a home, any, you can then buy homes of your own. Now, if you are relying upon what some fool tells you, the Government would do for you, labor dispossessed, will be your lot. The Government has given you all that it has to give you, that is—your freedom. That is enough—if you deserve freedom, you can do the rest. If you would punish Christmas to provide yourselves homes, what will be your condition, when cold weather comes on, and you are without homes, without food, without provision of any sort, and tell the Government has done nothing which you have been told—would be done? Before this can happen—you will sell all your

while there is something in sight to eat—you will, in such cases, begin to take it from others, and, then, you will be under the laws, rogues and thieves. Dare not be deceived,—because the Government leaves you free, it will not protect your indolence and thieving. It is my duty to see that the laws are respected—they shall be respected. If it should become necessary to keep the public peace and to protect the property of the citizens, I will not only call on the United States soldiers, but I will call upon the citizens. Mobs, in any case, are dangerous, without you being the sufferers. I beg you, for your own good, to act wisely. Be not drawn! Gold is cruel for Christians. What does the Bible say? Will Christians bring you food and clothing and homes? If you think so I tell you, that you are deceived. I will expect myself to afford you all of the protection that the law gives to every citizen, but at the same time, you must understand, that you are to attend to, accountable to the laws, for every wrong that you may do. Your best course is to once to engage to work for whomever will pay you the best price. If you do not you will be in trouble. You cannot collect evidence. Therefore only do whatever may be found in the laws of the country. What that is exactly, no one can give you any thing to do. The labor of those who cultivate the soil is the support of the country, and that labor you have in your control. The prices for labor are high, and you ought to be thankful that such a fortune is opened to you for your support. I caution you that you should not be induced to do this, or that under the pretence of being your friends, or your benefactors. The man who tells you, that the Government will support you, or that it will work, is not your real friend. He lies to you, and will lead you into trouble.

The Freedmen's Bureau will do for it one, as will you, in making contracts for labor—but the Officers will not be able to attend to every one, in time to save you from want, if you wait for them to act. Every contract which you may make in good faith, will be respected by the Government and the laws. You can have good men to write your contracts, and your rights will be protected by the laws of the country.

I think you will believe what I have said to you, for I have said it for your good. I beg you to believe it, and act upon it, for it is true, and time will prove it to you. You are free—free to work for yourselves, and do do right. No one is free to do wrong and to escape the labor of others. This will not be permitted by the Government and if any be foolish enough to attempt it, disobey the laws, you will do yourselves an injury which you cannot repair in years.

You have many encouragements. There is much labor to be done—much money to be earned by honest work. You have now to decide, and others see now, that this is your duty by success of living; that it is the command of God: your duty as well as your interest, will shape, lead you to do right.

O. O. Howard
Brevet Major General of Army

Proclamation by the Governor:

Whereas, it has been made known to me, that lawless and disorderly persons are creating trouble and disquietude in many portions of the State; and learning, likewise, that in many counties grave apprehensions are entertained by the peaceable and well disposed citizens, that violence to life and property is contemplated by a portion of the population, provoked by false and wicked representations and reports having been spread abroad, by good men, that the Officers of the civil law, may be inadequate to control and prevent such anticipated violence and outrages.

Now therefore I, as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do hereby authorize and empower the Chief Justices of the counties where such outrages exist, and in which there are good grounds to anticipate acts of violence and disorder, which the civil authorities may be inadequate to correct and prevent; to select a number, discreet citizens of their respective counties, having the confidence of the community - who shall act as Chief or captain of police, and shall have authority, by the advice and consent of the Chief Justice, to raise and organize a company, of the requisite force, to be called police force, which shall consist of not less than ten, nor more than fifty men, who, with the Chief, or captain, shall be sworn to support the Constitution and laws of the United States, and the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas; and the Chief Justices are directed to report the names of the persons composing said police force to this Office.

The company so organized, shall act merely as a police force, to assist the civil authorities of the State and counties in preserving law and order, and shall in all things be subordinate to the officers of the laws. And in the discharge of their duties, no violence shall be offered by said Companies, nor by any member thereof to any, or other than is absolutely necessary for a full discharge of their functions in conservation of the peace and quiet of the country. And should any member of said companies in the performance of their duties be guilty of any acts of violence or outrage upon any person whatever, not warranted by law, they shall be immediately arrested and held for trial.

In all cases where it may be necessary to execute arrests for outrages already committed, or to prevent the infraction of the laws, the party arrested shall be sent and delivered over to the civil authorities for prompt trial and punishment.

Said police force shall, whenever practicable, act in conjunction with the military authorities of the United States, and wherever in operation; and the United States military authorities are hereby requested to aid, as far as may be in their power, the civil authorities of the State, as well as the police force herein authorized to be raised, in suppressing lawlessness and protecting the lives and property of the citizens.

The Companies for police duty hereby ordered to be raised,

shall continue their organizations so long as, in the opinion of the Chief Justices of their counties, there exist a necessity for it, and no danger.

The citizens of the entire State, of whatever class or color, are earnestly exhorted to peaceably engage in orderly, conclusive pursuits, and to be assured that, so far as it lies within the Executive, crime shall be punished, and the majesty of the law upheld.

In testimony Whereof, I hereunto sign my hand, and cause the seal of the State to be affixed, this the 18th day of November. A. D. 1865, and in the year of the Independence of the United States, the ninetieth.

By the Governor:

A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

Joseph Spence,
Acting Sect of State

L. S.

Executive Office
Austin Texas 24th Nov 1865

Mr President.

I have already advised you by telegram that I had, by Proclamation ordered an election the 8th of January for delegates to assemble in Convention on the 7th of February next. I can well conceive that you have thought me slow in this matter and that you may have felt some impatience at Texas being so far behind the other southern States in this necessary work. I believe I have, in former communications, given you the reasons why it could not be done earlier— and I could also give reasons why it might have been better for Texas to have delayed the call still longer. The great body of the people are quiet and orderly. They seem to be well disposed to obey the laws and are doubtless glad to be once more under the protection of the Government of the U. S. and anxious to accept every benefit which it confers. Still it would be useless that a great many, even of this class, somewhat their minds and hearts so perverted by past teachings that they accept the power of Government as a matter of course without feeling any corresponding obligations on their part to render the slightest sacrifice to sustain the Government or its policy— Even Unionism, throughout the war, never doubted the emancipation of slavery would be the result, now that it has come, one, some of them, are such careful reasoners.

The Secret negro (scarcely other than slave) could not be yielded without a struggle. Now all sensible men acknowledge that Slavery is dead, but still there seems to be a desire and a hope that some plan may be adopted which will keep the Negro practically in bondage. This, I do not believe can be expressed, is either the expectation or wish of all of the late slaveowners, but certainly of a majority of them. Such men I do not claim this concession, for the most part, is regarded as inevitable in the reverses brought by the rebellion to be willing to accord to the Negro equal rights under the law. I regret not of suffrage—but protection for life, liberty and property. There is an evident improvement in the public mind upon this subject, steadily going forward. But the public Press of the State and the political Teachers because so bitterly disposed during the rebellion and committed themselves and the people to such extravagances that they cannot at once early embrace and declare the truth, hence the public mind is working slowly but I believe steadily in the right direction. Six months would bring it right! And I even hope that Congress when it meets will give such early indications of what is expected of the people of the South, that our Convention will be induced to act with more deliberation and better matured judgement than would control them under other circumstances. I scarcely form any more definite of what will be expected of the Convention. I have determined in my own mind as to what it ought to do.

1st To declare the ordinance of Secession null and void from the beginning—

2nd That there is no such thing as a legal or constitutional right in a State to secede or otherwise attempt a dissolution of the Union.

3rd That Slavery is extinguished by the Proclamation by the Proclamation of the President and acts of Congress.

4th That Slavery shall never again exist in the State.

5th The ratification of the amendment to the U. S. constitution prohibiting Slavery in all the States and territories.

6th That the freedmen of the late slaves shall be protected by guarantees to life, liberty and property by laws and legal rules allowing to them the benefit of their oaths in the courts of the Country upon the same rules of admissability and credibility that apply to the testimony of others.

7th That the debt of the State created for the purpose of upholding the rebellion and of destroying the Government of the U. S. is void and cannot be binding upon the people of Texas and cannot be paid or recognized without an implied concurrence of the rebellion that will be injurious to the people of the State but contributions and inuring to the Govt.; and that the same is not and never can be a charge upon the people of Texas.

These I think, are necessary as constitutional provisions to secure in perpetuity to freedmen the same rights forever relative to the Union. Less than this, I confess I could not, myself, be satisfied with, and something like this, in my

judgement, will be expected and demanded by the American people through their representatives in Congress. The influences to be counteracted against in bringing about this desirable action are manifold. It would be useless to enumerate them all; but among the most prominent are— 1st The unmerited spirit resulting from the failure of the rebellion and the contemptible existence of the false prophecies of its leaders— 2nd The indulgence of that spirit which causes men to refuse to be reconciled to those whom they have deeply injured without cause.

3rd The false pride of not acknowledging one error— together with the want of correct information touching sources of loss of prosperity— the desire to be against Considered as political oracles— envy and hatred of Union men— and last and worst, open Abolitionism, which in order to obtain power and profit, is unwilling to pander to all the prejudices of the most ardent spirit of Caste about the tyranny of Government &c &c.

To avoid all these I have had little help from any quarter. The best informed the State politicians in Congress have refused to throw themselves into the breach and give their active exertions to assist in removing all these hindrances to right action. I have done what I could and shall continue to labor to the last. I would gladly go through the most laborious portions of the State before the election to address the people. I shall probably avail myself of the views I entertain of their situation and their duty— This is unmistakable. The people want to hear the truth, and seem to feel instinctively that their former relations are not the same from which they can learn it. I have every day calls to go and talk to them, but refuse to this time. I have not been able to leave here even for one day, or one hour. But having organized the State and got it to running directly I think, I can better employ my time for them or them results by mingling with the people and giving them good advice than by attending to the mere details of business in any office which can be as well done by any Secty of State. It is a labor necessary to be performed, and this I shall perform it, so far as I can see, to the best of my ability.

I could say to you much more as to the temper of the people touching political questions but it would be tedious. There have been, as were to be expected, many outrages committed since the proclamation. I have done all in my power to prevent such and to bring to punishment the guilty parties. But the sections of the State remote from any Military force I have not been able to accomplish much.

You will perceive that I felt it my duty to issue an address to the people with a view of counteracting their tendency to rebellion as well the Secession ordered for them. There is an absurdity of those really believed that robust abstinence should be furnished with Slaves and actual cash the right hand. This was calculated to disencourage them to labor for fair wages, and I thought it best to favor the civil order ordered and their negro servants or freedmen that they would be compelled to go to Meeting the same

life, and then the whites would have something more than
be prized for killing them. Could with a view to prevent such a
state of things, I issued the address to the precinct and also an
authorizing the Chief Justice of the Counties to organize a Police
force to preserve order and prevent violence— Copies of which I
herewith enclose, as also a copy of my proclamation for re
convocation. I feel confident that they will have the desired
effect and that the public peace will be maintained.

You will perceive I also ask the President to say a word
upon the subject of diminishing the Military force in Texas.
I will not present you the reasons at this time for what I urge
beyond the statement which I deliberately make; that it will
not be safe to reduce it lower than it now is. I do not suppose that
the United States would have anything to fear in a Military
point of view. But it would have much to lose, in the way of
defeating the restoration of society and civil Law in Texas.

There is no fear of our organized force to openly defy the
power of Government, but their conduct beyond doubt be
thousands of embittered acts of insult and injury to loyal
citizens by that class of men who are bitter in their feelings towards
the Government and its friends.

They are not the majority, but there is such a preponderance of
such men as to enable them in many localities in the present
demoralized condition of society, to defy the local civil law.
The largest portion of the forces now in the State are on the
Rio Grande and this I suppose, for obvious reasons, will continue
to be the case; so that there is left for the whole of the immense
territory of the State where our people actually reside not
more than Six or eight thousand troops. If this number
should be distributed between such points in the State
as will afford reasonable aid to the civil authorities in
keeping the public peace they will be found hardly adequate
to the task. As it now is, very much the largest portion of
the State in territory, and very much the largest portion of our
people have no such protection.

Besides the people on our Indian border are suffering terribly
from the combined depredations of the Indians. So few
new permanent Posts have been established on this border.
If it was not done this whole month from them will
be cancelled to recede. It is in fact now daily
receding.

Our people have been patient. They know they
are not blameless in producing this state of things.
But it is said that the innocent must suffer for the
wrongs of the guilty.

I most respectfully urge upon
your Excellency that a force be directed to occupy the
Indian frontier. And I, at the same time, for the
reasons given would strongly recommend that
the further diminution of the forces in Texas
be made. They are needed, and will be for many

accuse to cause, if you are to have order and security to life and property.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
Very Obt. Servant.
A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

His Excellency
Andrew Johnson
President U. S.
Washington.

Executive Office
Austin Texas Nov. 25th 1865

Having been frequently applied to by persons (especially members of the legal profession,) who have been recommended by me to the President for special pardon, for permission to resume their several occupations, pending the action of the President upon their applications. I deem it proper to make known to all whom it may concern, that I am both willing and desirous to afford every proper facility to the people of the State, of whatever condition, to resume and prosecute their respective callings and professions. And while the rule prescribed by me on the 8th day of September last, indicating the manner in which attorneys could be admitted to practice in the several courts of the State, was founded upon what I believed at the time to be correct principle, yet I have no such pride of opinion as to wish its longer observance, if all wrongs are removed or unnecessary should exist.

The question how far a pardon embraced within any of the exceptions can engage in business previous to Special amnesty is obtained, as one I wish to leave for the courts of the Country to settle. But so far as depends upon me any will or wish, all those who have received my recommendation for Special pardon are at full liberty to resume the business and duties of their several professions and employments. Parties so situated however, must abide the decision of the courts as to the legality of their right to act, for such as question I distinctly disclaim determining. I only desire now to be understood, that no objection will be made by me to a full and free exercise of every right of citizenship by all persons who have manifested proper respect for the Government. And, I will add, that from what I have learned of the course pursued in other States, in such cases, I believe that no objection will be made by the Government of the United States. Therefore, so much of my Proclamation of the 8th

September, 1845, as relates to this subject, is hereby revoked.

In witness whereof I have caused the seal of State to be affixed, the day and year above written.

L. S.

A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

(Signed)

By the Governor:
Joseph Spence,
Acting Sec'ry of State

Executive Office
Austin Texas Dec 2nd 1845.

Col.

I have this morning, been furnished with satisfaction of a certified Copy of the proceedings of a Court in Lavaca County in this State, presided over by the Chief Justice of said County. The case was a preliminary examination, under the laws of the State of the charge of homicide alleged to have been committed by one Ab Gwinn upon the body of a freedman whose name was not known.

The result of the investigation was that in the judgment of the Court the homicide was justifiable and the accused was discharged. As the Chief Executive Officer of the State it is neither a part of my duty nor within my power to sit in judgment upon the acts of Judicial Officers performed within their jurisdiction. Therefore it is not for me to say whether the decision of the Court in the case referred to was right or wrong. But I can, and do say that the Court had jurisdiction of the case and was Competent to make the decision. These preliminary trials under our laws are not final — the only object in such trials is to ascertain whether in the judgment of the examining Court the party accused should be committed to jail or held to bail to answer to such indictment as a grand jury may afterwards prefer. But the decision one way or the other has no effect upon the action of a grand jury. They can indict a party who has been discharged by an examining Court, just as if he had been committed to Prison.

I have been informed by the Sheriff of the County and the son of Ab Gwinn that you have him in Custody upon the same charge. Soon after my return to Texas I understood to have such an understanding with the Military authorities in Texas as would prevent any collision with the civil Officers of the State. I addressed a communication upon the subject to Maj Genl Wright and in reply, received from him a letter, a copy of which I herewith enclose in order that you may see what his views upon the subject are.

From any reading of this letter, every requirement therein contained - even where freedmen are parties - has been fully met in the proceedings of the Court in Lavaca County. A homicide was charged to have been committed upon the body of a freedman and a freedwoman was admitted to testify against the accused, without objection. It was not a case occurring in the Army, or where any Soldier or Military Officer was concerned, and so far as I can see, if you can disregard the action of the civil authorities in this case, you can do so in every conceivable case that can arise under our laws, and thus the civil Courts be entirely superseded as tribunals for the punishment of offenders. I regret that you have felt it your duty to adopt this course. I not only believe it to be, without proper reason and but contrary to the policy of the Government, and to the Policy of the Commander of the Dept of Texas, as well. In this view of the matter I recommend respectfully to request that you will not proceed further in the case, and if need be I hereby protest against any action against the said Swinney by Military Commission, until the case is decided upon by Maj Gen'l Wright. To whom I will at once dispatch a copy of the proceedings of the Court, together with a communication upon the subject.

It is perhaps due to you also to add, that I have received very many complaints from Citizens in the vicinity of Victoria of unnecessary and oppressive treatment by the Military authorities at that point. I deem it my duty to request of the Commander of the Department to cause these Charges to be enquired into, while at the same time I sincerely regret the necessity for so doing; and I regret it the more because no such complaints have reached me from any other quarter. It has been a source of much satisfaction to me to know that with this single exception there seems to be every where in the State naturally a good understanding between the Citizens and Civil Officers of the State and the Military authorities, but generally, the kindest cordiality.

I do not, of course, assume the truth of the statements made to me, and shall be glad to know they are untrue, but to prevent further trouble I deem it proper to cause the facts to be ascertained.

I am, Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
A J Hamilton

(Signed)

Col J F Rose
Cavalry Post
Victoria.

Executive Office.
Austin Texas Nov 22. 1865.

Governor.

I find deposited in the State Capitol, as a trophy of war, a flag, which appears to have been captured dur=ing the late rebellion, by Texas troops from the 19th Regiment Kentucky Volunteers in one of the battles fought in Louisiana— Pleasant Hill perhaps— during the Spring of 1864.
I afford me great pleasure to be able, to forward all through you to the Regiment to which it belongs; and with the flag, I request leg you to convey to the Officers and men of the Regiment my sincere wishes for their individual happiness and prosperity. And per=mit me to express the hope that never again may our country be engaged in fratricidal strife, but that the suns of each sister State may ever circulate thereafter, in upholding our cherished honor and vie with each other in advancing our national greatness and glory.

With sentiments of high regard.
I have the honor to be
Your Excellency
Obt Servant.
(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas.

To
The Governor of Kentucky
Frankfort.

State of Texas }
County of Travis }

Know all men by these presents, that we, Francis M White, of Jackson County, State of Texas, as principal, and Samuel Harris, George Hancock and Morgan C Hamilton of Travis County, in said State, as securities, are held and firmly bound unto Andrew J Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, and to his successors in the Office of Governor of said State, in the just and full sum of Fifty Thousand dollars, for the payment whereof, well and truly to be made, We bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

The condition of this obligation is such that Whereas the above bound Francis M White has been duly appointed Commissioner of the General Land Office of the State of Texas. Now, if the said Francis M White shall well and faithfully discharge his Official duties, as Commissioner aforesaid, then this obligation to be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

In Testimony whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, at the City of Austin. This the Thirtieth day of August, A. D. 1865

Francis M White Seal
Samuel Harris Seal
George Hancock Seal
Morgan C Hamilton Seal

Witness,
J M Lenoir.

Approved
August 31st 1865.
A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

I, Francis M White, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Commissioner of the General Land Office of the State of Texas, according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas: And, I do further solemnly swear that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the United States, I being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State nor out of it, nor have I accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, or aided, advised or assisted any one so offending. And I do further swear that to the best of my ability and knowledge, I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign or domestic. That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same. That I will, in good faith, observe and support the laws, Congress, and the Proclamation of the President of the

United States, in relation to Slavery: that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. So help me God.

F M White.

Sworn to and subscribed
before me this 30th day of
August, A. D. 1865.
Thos H Duval
U S Dist Judge
West'n Dist of Texas.

Filed in the Stat. Dept Aug 31st 1865.
Joseph Sneed
Chief Clerk.

The State of Texas } Know all men by these presents
County of Travis } That we Ashford W McGill as princi-
pal and George Hancock, J M Litton and J M Chandler
as securities are held and firmly bound unto the State of
Texas in the just and penal sum of Twenty thousand Dollars,
good and lawful money of the State of Texas, for the payment of
which well and truly to be made. We bind ourselves and each of
us our heirs, executors and administrators severally and jointly
by these presents.

In testimony whereof, We hereto subscribe our names this Twenty
eight day of August A. D. 1865.

The condition of this obligation
is such, that Whereas, the above bounden A W McGill has been
appointed by Francis M White, Commissioner of the General
Land Office of the State of Texas, to the Office of Chief Clerk
of the said General Land Office: Now if the said A W McGill
shall well and truly perform, and discharge all the duties
incumbent on him as Chief Clerk of the General Land Office
of the State of Texas as aforesaid, in conformity with the laws
of the State of Texas in force during the time he may hold said
Office, then the foregoing obligation will be void and null,
otherwise it shall remain in full force and virtue.

A W McGill,
Geo Hancock,
J M Litton,
J M Chandler,

Approved
29th August A. D. 1865.
A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas.

The State of Texas }
County of Travis } I, Ashford W McGill do solemnly swear
that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform
all the duties incumbent on me as Chief Clerk of the

General Land Office of the State of Texas according to the best of my skill and ability agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas; And I do further solemnly swear that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the United States I being a citizen of this State have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State nor out of it, nor have I accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, or aided, advised or assisted any one so offending: And I do further swear that to the best of my knowledge and ability I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, that I will in good faith observe and support the laws of Congress and the Proclamation of the President of the United States in relation to Slavery; that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. So help me God.

A Bell Gill

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this the 29th day of August, A. D. 1865.

H J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

Filed in the State Department August 29th 1865.

Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas }
County of Travis }

Know all men by these presents that We James P Bowen as principal and P W Chevallier, W A Taylor, G Spalding, P W G Baker as sureties are held and firmly bound unto the State of Texas in the just and penal sum of Twenty thousand dollars, good and lawful money of the State of Texas, for the payment of which well and truly to be made, We bind ourselves, and each of us, our heirs executors, and administrators severally and jointly by these presents.

The Testimony whereof we hereto subscribe our names this thirty first day of August, A. D. 1865.

The Condition of this obligation is such, that whereas the above bounden James P Bowen has been appointed by Travis P Bell Commissioner of the General Land Office of the State of Texas to the Office of Spanish Clerk of said General Land Office. Now, if the said James P Bowen shall well and truly perform and discharge all the duties required and have as Spanish Clerk of the General Land Office of the State of Texas as aforesaid according conformably with the laws of the State of Texas for the time being and that he may hold said Office, then the foregoing

Obligation will be null and void, otherwise it shall remain in full force and virtue.

James Browne
I W Cruchfield
W C Dangerfield
G Spalding
D W C Baxter.

Approved,
31st August 1845.
A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas.

I, James Browne do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Spanish Clerk of the General Land Office of the State of Texas, according to the best of my skill and ability agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas. And I do further solemnly swear that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the United States, I, being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State nor out of it, nor have I accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge or aided advised or assisted any one so offending. And I do further swear that to the best of my knowledge and ability I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign and domestic, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same, that I will, in good faith, observe and support the laws of Congress and the Proclamations of the President of the United States in relation to Slavery, that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, So help me God.

James Browne

Sworn and subscribed before me
this 29th day of August 1845
Geo H Gray
Ch Justice Travis County.

Filed in the State Department August 31st 1845.

Joseph Lewis
Chief Clerk.

The State of Texas
County of Travis }

Know all men by these presents that we Samuel Harris as principal and John M Swisher James F Johnson, James H Raymond, Alfred Smith, E M Pease and Geo Hancock as sureties are held and firmly bound unto Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, and his successors in Office, in the sum of Seventy Five Thousand dollars, for payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

The condition of this obligation is such, that whereas the said Samuel Harris was on the Second day of October Eighteen Hundred and Sixty Five (1865) appointed to the Office of State Treasurer of said State, Now therefore should the said Samuel Harris well and truly discharge and perform and faithfully execute the duties of his Office according to law, then this obligation to be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect.

Witness our Hands and Seals this 2nd day of October Eighteen Hundred and Sixty Five

Samuel Harris
John M Swisher
James F Johnson
Jas H Raymond
Alfred Smith
E M Pease
George Hancock

I Samuel Harris do solemnly swear, that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Treasurer of the State of Texas according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, and also to the Constitution and laws of the United States of America. And I do further solemnly swear, that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the United States, I being a citizen of this State, have not fought a duel with deadly weapons, within this State nor out of it, nor have I accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, nor aided, advised or assisted any one so offending. And I do further swear, that to the best of my knowledge and ability I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will in good faith observe and support the laws of Congress, and the proclamations of the President of the U.S. in relation to slavery: that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. So help me God.

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 3rd day of Oct, 1865.

Samuel Harris
A J Hamilton Pro Gov of Texas

State of Texas }
County of Travis }

Know all men by these presents, that we, Albert M Latimer as principal and E M Pease, Elmos Morrill, W C Hamilton and Benj M Epperson as securities are firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, and his successors in office, for the use of the State of Texas, in the full and just sum of Seventy five Thousand dollars lawful money, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves jointly and severally, our joint and several heirs, Executors and administrators, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals (our seals being scratch) and dated this Thirteenth day of October one thousand eight hundred and sixty five.

The condition of the foregoing obligation is such, that whereas, the said Albert M Latimer has this day been appointed and Commissioned, to the office of Comptroller of the State of Texas by Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of said State: Now therefore, if the said Albert M Latimer, does truly and faithfully execute and discharge all of the duties of said office of Comptroller according to law; then the above obligation to be void and of no effect; otherwise, it shall remain in full force and virtue.

A M Latimer Seal
W C Hamilton Seal
B M Epperson Seal
Elmos Morrill Seal
E M Pease Seal

Approved
13th Oct 1865.
A J Hamilton
Pro Gov of Texas

I A M Latimer do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Comptroller of Public Accounts according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeable to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas; And I do further solemnly swear that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the U. States, I being a citizen of this State have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State, nor out of it, nor have I accepted a challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, nor aided, advised or assisted any one so offending: And I do further swear, that to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign or domestic: that I will be true faith and allegiance to the same: that I will, in good faith, observe and support the laws of Congress and the Proclamations of the President of the United States in relation to Slavery: that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. So help me God

A M Latimer

Sworn to and Subscribed before me This 13th day of Oct. 1865.
A J Hamilton
Pro Gov of Texas

Filed in State Dept Oct 13th 1865.
Asst Secy

The State of Texas }
County of Travis }

Know all men by these presents, that we, George C Rives as principal and Joseph Spence, W. C. Hamilton and Amos Morrill as securities are firmly held and bound as debtors to the State of Texas in the full sum of Ten thousand dollars to the payment whereof, well and truly to be made to His Excellency the Governor of the State aforesaid, or to any of his successors in office, we firmly bind ourselves, our heirs executors, administrators and assigns jointly and severally by these presents, in faith of which we have hereunto set our hands and seals at Austin this 13th day of October A. D. 1865.

The condition of this obligation is such, that whereas the above bound George C Rives hath been appointed to the office of Chief Clerk of the Comptrollers Office of the State of Texas: Now then if he shall appear that the said George C Rives hath fulfilled and discharged the duties, obligations and trusts of said office and truly, faithfully and honestly doing and performing all things which have or by law may require of him as the holder of said office, then and then this obligation became void; but shall otherwise remain in full force and virtue.

George C Rives (Seal)
Joseph Spence (Seal)
W. C. Hamilton (Seal)
Amos Morrill

Approved,
13th Oct 1865.
A J Hamilton
Prov Gov Tex.

I, George C, Rives do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Chief Clerk of the Comptrollers Office of the State of Texas, according to the best of my ability agreeably to the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas And I further do solemnly swear, that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the United States I being a citizen of this State have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State, nor out of it, nor have I accepted a challenge to fight a duel with a deadly weapon: nor have I acted as second in carrying a challenge, nor aided, advised or assisted any person offending. And I do further swear, that to the best of my knowledge and ability I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign or domestic. That I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same. That I will in good faith observe and support the laws of Congress and the Proclamations of the President of the United States in relation to Slavery. That I take this obligation freely without mental reservation or purpose of evasion, So help me God.

George C Rives

Sworn and subscribed }
This 13th day of Oct 1865. }
A J Hamilton
Prov Gov of Texas.

Filed in State Dept. Oct 13. 1865.
Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas
County of Fayette. } Know all men by these presents, That we George W. Sicks as principal, and John L. Smith J. L. Walker, L. Lindsay, Joel W. Robison and H. Lee Cotton as securities, are held and firmly bound unto the State of Texas in the penal sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars, lawful money of the United States, for the payment of which well and truly to be made, We bind ourselves, our and each of our heirs, Executors and Administrators, jointly, and severally, firmly by these presents, Signed and Sealed with our seals, The Seals being drawn on this the 11th day September A. D. 1865.

The condition of the above obligation is such, That whereas, the above bounden George W. Sicks has been appointed and Commissioned by Andrew J. Hamilton Provisional Governor of said State, Financial Agent of the Texas State Penitentiary. Now if the said George W. Sicks shall faithfully perform all the duties required of him by law, and shall faithfully account for and pay over to the proper authorities all money that may come into his hands as Financial Agent aforesaid, during the time that he may serve in said Capacity, under said appointment, then and in that event this bond or obligation to be null and void, otherwise to remain in full force and effect, Note the word "former" interlined before signing.

G. (W.) Sicks (Seal)
John L. Smith (Seal)
J. L. Walker (Seal)
L. Lindsay (Seal)
Joel W. Robison (Seal)
H. Lee Cotton (Seal)

The State of Texas
County of Fayette. } We the undersigned Chief Justice and Clerk of the County Court in and for said County, do hereby certify that the Securities to the foregoing Bond of George W. Sicks, are solvent men, and are worth the amount specified in said bond, and that each of said Securities are well known to each of us.

In testimony of which we hereunto signed our names and affix the seal of the County Court of said County, at Office in the town of La Grange on this the 15th day of September A. D. 1865.

W. B. Price Chief Justice F. C.
G. W. French Clk. Co. Court

The within bond has been approved by the Acting Directors and also by myself and recorded in Directors Book of minutes.

Thos. Carothers
Supt Texas Penitentiary.

Filed in Sec'y Dept Nov 24. 1865.

Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk.

The State of Texas }
County of Galveston }

Know all men by these presents that we Thos Chubb as principal, and Henry D Andrews and John R Mills as securities all of the County and State aforesaid, are held and firmly bound unto Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas and his successors in Office, in the just and full sum of Five thousand dollars for which payment well and truly to be made, We bind ourselves jointly and severally and each of our heirs, executors, administrators and assigns firmly by these presents

Witness our hands and seals at Galveston this 5th day of September A. D. 1865

The conditions of the foregoing obligations such, that whereas the Commissioners Thomas Chubb has been appointed by his Excellency A J Hamilton to the Office of Branch Pilot for Galveston District aforesaid County and State, which said appointment bears date the Thirty first day of August A. D. 1865. Now if the said Thos Chubb shall well, truly and faithfully discharge and perform the duties of said Pilot, then this obligation to be void, else to remain in full force, virtue and effect.

T Chubb L.S.
H D Andrews L.S.
John R Mills L.S.

The State of Texas } Before me Edward S Austin Chief Justice
County of Galveston } of Galveston County, of Galveston on this 5th day of September 1865, personally appeared Thomas Chubb, Henry D Andrews and John R Mills, all to me known, and signed the foregoing Bond in my presence.

In which I certify under my hand and the seal of the County Court of Galveston County, this 5th September 1865

Edward S Austin
Chief Justice
Galveston County

Office Board of Pilot Commissioners
Galveston Sept 7. 1865.

The Board of Pilot Commissioners approve the Bond attached of Capt Thomas Chubb.

By order of the Board
Geo W Green
Secty

Filed in State Department Sept 15. 1865.

Joseph Stevens
Chief Clerk

Fredericksburg Dec 10. 1865.

To His Excellency
Governor Hamilton.

We the citizens of Gillespie County would respectfully petition your in behalf of some unfortunate members of our Community. On or about the middle of September last 1865 many depredations were committed by the Indians, and among other atrocities, Seven helpless persons were carried off, by name;

Lola Caroline McDonald,
Mahalah McDonald — daughter of the above named.
Rebecca McDonald — " " " " " "
Alice Taylor, — Niece " " " "
James Taylor, — Nephew " " " "
Dorcus Taylor, — Niece " " " "
Rodolph Fisher, (boy aged 14 years)

The Indians, committing these depredations are generally believed to be the "Kiowas". And Governor, we earnestly solicit both your personal and Official assistance in the matter, that we may soon see the anguish of the relatives and friends relieved and the captives speedily returned.

We see by the papers that already has recently been made between this tribe and Genl Mooney, and that six prisoners have been returned to the whites, Could you not find and have the "Authorities" at Washington act in the matter, and relieve the anxieties of many friends.

We feel assured, that if we can secure your assistance in the matter, we can count upon the speedy and safe return of the captives. Any information you may have, or may arrive at, will be thankfully received by, many citizens.

In the meantime we remain
Most Respectfully
C Basse
James M Swindon;
M L Wadsworth
H. Buchholz
G Fischer
Fritz Pape
Wm Koock
Silas M Hunter;
And many Citizens.

Executive Office
Austin Texas 18th Dec 1865.

To The Commissioner of Indian Affairs.
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir.

Enclosed please find copy of a communication to me from citizens of Fredericksburg, Gillespie County in this State touching

the Captivity of certain persons by Indians. These atrocities are, I am sorry to say of frequent occurrence now. If any means can be obtained of the unfortunate prisoners and forwarded to me at this place it can be communicated to their relatives and friends, & I will use every exertion to relieve their present unpleasant situation.

I have the honor to be
Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant.
A J Hamilton.
(Signed)

Executive Office
Austin Texas Dec. 23. 1865.

Whereas it has been made known to me that one Emily Hughes a colored woman was tried and convicted of the crime of theft, at the November Term of the District Court of the County of Marion in said State of Texas and was sentenced to Confinement in the Penitentiary of the State for the term of two years; and, Whereas from statements made to me by the Dist Judge and Dist Atty. before and by whom the said Emily Hughes was tried, that there is some doubt as to the intent with which said offence was committed, and that humanity requires her release from confinement, because of young and dependent children.

Now, Therefore, I A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the same, do hereby, grant unto the said Emily Hughes a full pardon for said offence, and the Superintendent of the Penitentiary or other officers having her in charge is hereby directed to release her forthwith from confinement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name at the City of Austin the day and year aforesaid, and caused the great Seal of the State to be affixed

A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov.

By the Governor
Joseph Spencer
Act Secty of State

The State of Texas
County of Galveston } Know all men by these presents that we John Davidson as principal and D Wickeles and C L Beiseier as securities are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his successors in Office in the sum of Five Thousand Dollars ($5.000.00) Conditioned that if the said John Davidson, Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, of date Twenty third day of November 1865, shall faithfully perform all the duties of his said Office as such Pilot then this bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue, Signed at Galveston this 15th day of December 1865.

John Davidson
D Wickeles
C L Beiseier

Board of Pilot Commissioners
Galveston December 18. 1865.

The above Bond was this day approved by the Commissioners.

By Order:
Geo W Groves
Sec. Board.

Filed in the State Department Jany 2. 1866

Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas
County of Galveston } Know all men by these presents that we Theodor Sellewers as principal and Julius Kauffmann and F Berkemeier as securities are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas, and his Successors in Office in the Sum of Five thousand dollars, Conditioned that if Theodor Sellewers, Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, of date 23rd November 1865, shall faithfully perform the duties of his said Office as such Pilot then this bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue. Signed at Galveston this Seventh day of December 1865. —

Theodor Sellewers
J Kauffmann
F Berkemeier

Board of Pilot Commissioners
Galveston Dec 10. 1865

The above Bond was this day approved by the Commissioners.
By Order. G W Groves. Sec Board.

Filed in the State Department Jany 2. 1866

Joseph Spence
Acting Secy of State.

The State of Texas }
County of Galveston }

Know all men by these presents that We R Jamieson as principal and John Wolston and W R Evans as sureties are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his successors in Office in the sum of Five thousand Dollars ($5000 00/100) Conditioned that if R Jamieson Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas, of date 23rd November 1865 shall faithfully perform the duties of his said Office as such Pilot, then this Bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue. Signed at Galveston this 7th day of December 1865.

R Jamieson,
John Wolston,
W R Evans.

Board Pilot Commissioners.
Galveston December 10. 1865.

The above Bond was this day approved by the Commissioners
By Order.
Geo W Green
Secty Board.

Filed in the State Department January 2. 1866.
Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas }
County of Galveston } Know all men by these presents that We John E Davidson as principal and Theodore Wagner and E B Nichols as sureties are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his successors in Office, in the sum of Five thousand dollars. Conditioned that if John E Davidson Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas of date twenty third day of November 1865 shall faithfully perform the duties of his Office as Pilot aforesaid, then this Bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue. Signed at Galveston this 7th day of December 1865.
The words "his successors in Office" interlined before signing.

J E Davidson
Theodor Wagner
E B Nichols

Board of Pilot Commissioners
Galveston December 10. 1865

The above Bond was this day approved by the Commissioners
By Order.
Geo W Green
Sec'y Board

Filed in the State Department January 2, 1866.
Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas
County of Galveston } Know all men by these presents that We J C Walters as principal and J W Stockish and L S Wood as securities are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his successors in Office in the sum of Five thousand dollars (5.000 "") Conditioned that if J C Walters Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas of date November 23rd 1865. shall faithfully perform the duties of his said Office as such Pilot, then this bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue, Signed at Galveston this Seventh day of December A. D. 1865.

J C Waller
L S Wood
J W Stockish.

Board Pilot Commissioners
Galveston December 11. 1865.

The above Bond was this day approved by the Commissioners
By Order
Geo W Brown
Secy Board.

Filed in the State Department January 2. 1866.
Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas
County of Galveston } Know all men by these presents that we Joseph B Sables as principal and Ball Stutchings & Co as securities are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his successors in Office in the sum of Five Thousand dollars, Conditioned that if Joseph B Sables Branch Pilot of the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, of date the 23rd November 1865. shall faithfully perform the duties of his said Office as Pilot then this Bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue. Signed at Galveston this 7th day Dec. 1865.

J B Sables
Ball Stutchings & Co

Office Board Pilot Commissioners
Galveston December 23. 1865.

The above Bond is approved by this Board.
By Order
Geo W Brown
Secy.

Filed in the State Department January 2. 1866.
Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas.
County of Galveston }

Know all men by these presents that We Ezekiah Wilson as principal and G C Rains, D Stitchcock & Co as sureties are held and firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas, and his successors in Office in the sum of Five thousand dollars, Lawfull money, that I Ezekiah Wilson, Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment by A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas of date 23rd November 1865. shall faithfully perform the duties of his office as said Pilot, then this Bond to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue. Signed at Galveston this 7th December 1865.

E Wilson
G C Rains
D Stitchcock & Co.

Office Board Pilot Commissioners
Galveston December 23rd 1865

The above Bond is approved by this Board.

By Order
Geo W Groos
Secy

Filed in the State Department January 2. 1866

Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk

The State of Texas.

To all and singular, the Sheriffs, Constables and other civil Officers of said State, Greeting.

Whereas, It has been represented and made known to me by the Governor of the State of Illinois, that Wm Burnes late of said State of Illinois stands charged by affidavit in the County of Adams of said State with the crime of Larceny, and that said Wm Burnes has fled from justice in said State of Illinois, and has taken refuge in the State of Texas, and Whereas the said Governor of the State of Illinois, in pursuance of the Constitution and Laws of the United States, has demanded of me that I cause the said William Burnes to be arrested and delivered to J W Richards the duly authorized Agent appointed by said Governor of the State of Illinois to receive the said Wm Burnes into custody and convey him back to the State of Illinois.

And Whereas, the said representation and demand are accompanied by the affidavit of Wm M Laughlin sworn to and subscribed before one L B Adams Justice of the Peace for the County of Sangamon in said State of Illinois, properly authenticated.

Now therefore, I Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State and of the United States give this my Warrant Commanding

Sheriffs, Constables and other civil officers of this State to arrest and to aid and assist in arresting the said Wm Barnes, and deliver him when arrested to the said J. M. Richards Agent of said State of Illinois in order that he may be taken back to the State of Illinois to be dealt with for the said offence of Larceny according to law.

In testimony Whereof, I hereto sign my name and cause the great seal of the State to be affixed at the City of Austin this the 11th day of January A.D. 1866, and in the year of the Independence of the United States the Ninetieth.

A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

(Signed)
By the Governor:

Executive Office
Austin Texas 19th Dec 1865.

Sir:

Your favor of the 30th ultimo would have been answered earlier; but for the press of business. The questions so frequently asked me as to how far acts of the Legislature of our State relating to municipal affairs simply passed during the rebellion, are valid is a judicial question which I, as Executive of the State, have no power to decide. I can only give an opinion as any other citizen or lawyer. I have no doubt that upon the principal of public policy, most, if not all the Legislature referred to will be sustained. I mean where no right of the Government of the U. S is contravened and no duty imposed upon the citizen incompatible with his allegiance to that Govt. It is universal that where either of these things are attempted the act is annulled. With this brief explanation of my views I find no difficulty in arriving at a conclusion by their application to the case you present under the City Charter of Houston.

If a party whose vote is challenged possessed the qualifications prescribed by Sec 3rd but was by unconstitutional power compelled to leave his home and country and to refuse to pay taxes or to pay to authority hostile to his Govt he has neither lost or forfeited his right to vote. The question is now have they owned the requisite property for the requisite time; As to the payment of taxes the public history of the times (of which even Courts will take judicial cognizance) will attest that they paid them improperly;

No man has lost any privilege or right under existing laws in this State on account leaving it temporarily to preserve his fidelity to the United States.

The late rebellion requires impassability or wrong of any of its citizens.

The class of persons recommended by you are not overly good, but in my judgement about the best votes you have.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Servant.
(Signed) A J Hamilton

J M Smith Esq
City of Law.
Texas.

State Department
Austin Texas January 11. 1866

Sir Carothers Esq
Superintendent Penitentiary
Huntsville Texas.

Sir:

I request application having been made by the friends of James Stephenson to the Governor for his release from the Penitentiary. I have been at some trouble to look up the papers in his case and find upon the Executive Records of Gov Allen an order made on the 10th of June 1865 for his discharge from the Penitentiary. I send herewith a certified copy of the order and if the said Stephenson be still in confinement you will release him in accordance with the same.

Very Respectfully
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

Executive Office
Austin Texas January 14th 1866

Whereas it has been made known to me, that at a term of the District Court begun and held on 1st day of January 1866 in and for the County of Fort Bend in the State of Texas, one A J Ross (Freedman) was tried and convicted upon an indictment for Larceny, and sentenced to be confined in the Penitentiary for the term of two years:

And Whereas from a petition numerously signed by the Citizens of said County, it appears that the punishment is greatly disproportionate to the crime (stealing three bushels potatoes) and that by reason of the ignorance and the very recent altered civil condition of the said Ross from a state of slavery to that of freedom, he is a proper subject for Executive Clemency, and that no Good can accrue to the State or to the ends of justice by the execution of the same.

Now, therefore I, Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me, by the Constitution and Laws of the State, do hereby grant unto the said A J Ross a full pardon for said offence, and the Officer or Officers having him in charge are hereby directed to release and discharge said A J Ross from Confinement for said offence.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name at the City of Austin, the day and year aforesaid, and caused the great seal of the State to be affixed.

(Signed) Andrew J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas

By the Governor
James H Bell
Secretary of State

The State of Texas } Know all men by these presents that
County of Galveston } We Zachariah Sable as principal and
A C McKeen and J F Westcott as securities are held and firmly
bound unto A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his suc-
cessors in Office in the sum of Five Hundred dollars, Conditioned that Zachariah
Sable Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment of A J Hamilton Gov
of the State of Texas of date the 12th day of December 65, shall faithfully perform
all the duties of his said Office as Pilot, then this Bond to be void, otherwise to
remain in full force and virtue. Signed and Sealed Galveston this 2nd January 1866.

Zachariah Sable
A C McKeen
J F Westcott

Approved by Board of Pilot Commissioners
Galveston January 10th 1866.

By Order.
Geo H Green
Secretary.

Filed in the State Department January 17th 1866.

Asst Secretary
Chief Clerk

State Department
Austin Texas January 26. 1866.

O S P Garrett
Chief-Justice
Washington County.

Sir.

You are hereby directed to order that an election be held in the Town of Brenham in the County of Washington for the Municipal Officers thereof, authorized by law, giving the notice required under the Charter incorporating said Town of Brenham for holding said election.

By direction of the Governor

Respectfully

Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

The State of Texas } Know all men by these presents, that we
County of Matagorda } Oscar F Bailey as principal and Jacob Strauss
Geo Burkhart and Thos Bedford as Securities are held and firmly
held to his Excellency A J Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State
of Texas, and his successors in Office in the full sum of Five Thousand
Dollars the payment of which well and truly to be made, we hereby bind
ourselves, our heirs, representatives, administrators & assigns jointly,
severally and firmly by these presents—
Signed with our hands at the City of Matagorda, County and State
aforesaid, This the 15th day of January A.D. 1866.

The Condition of the above obligation is this, that whereas, the said
Oscar F Bailey, was on the 12th day of December A. D. 1865.
appointed to the office of Branch Pilot for the port of Port Lavaca in
the County of Matagorda, by the Governor aforesaid.—
Now if the said Oscar F Bailey shall well and truly discharge
and perform all the duties incumbent upon him as such
Pilot, then this obligation shall be void else to remain in full force virtue and effect.

O F Bailey
Jacob Strauss
Geo Burkhart
Thos Bedford

Filed in the State Department Feby 10. 1866

The State of Texas
County of Galveston } Know all men by these presents
that we Louis Best as principal and Wm Pool and
J E Preston as sureties are held and firmly bound unto
A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas and his successors
in Office in the sum of Five thousand Dollars, conditioned that if
Louis Best, Branch Pilot for the Port of Galveston by appointment
of A J Hamilton Governor of the State of Texas. of date the
nineteenth of Janry 1866, shall faithfully perform all the duties of
his said Office of Pilot, then this bond to be void otherwise to remain
in full force and effect, Witness our hands at Galveston this 26th
Janry 1866.

Louis Best
Wm Pool
J E Preston

Approved by Board of
Pilot Commissioners!
Galveston Janry 31. 1866
Geo W Grover
Secretary.

Filed in the State Department Febry 10. 1866.

Circular to Chief Justices.

State Department Austin Texas
Febry 7th 1866.

Sir: The first of the regulations prescribed in the Proclamation of the Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, on the 19th August, 1865, creates a Board for the Administration of the Oath of Amnesty. The third provides that "the Oath so signed by the party, shall be deposited in the Office of the Clerk of the County Court, and kept by him." By a Circular issued by the Secretary of State of the United States, dated 29th May 1865, it is prescribed as follows:—"All Officers who receive such oaths are hereby authorized to give certified copies thereof to the persons respectively by whom they are made, and such Officers are hereby required to transmit the originals of such oaths, as soon early a day as may be convenient, to this department, when they will be deposited, and remain in the archives of the government. A register thereof will be kept in the department, and on application, in proper cases, certificates will be issued of such records in the Customary form of official certificates." Now, inasmuch as said Boards were created to facilitate the taking the said Oath of Amnesty, and to render the same practicable in those portions of Texas where there were "no commissioned Officer, civil, military, or naval, in the service of the United States," You are hereby instructed to transmit the originals of said oaths taken before you, "as soon early a day as may be convenient," to this office, to the end that they may be forwarded to the Department of State of the United States, as is provided in said circular. You are also instructed to report, at the same time, to this office, the total number of Voters in your County, who had been registered up to January 8th, 1866, that day inclusive. The Board will continue to act until it is abolished by the Governor, or otherwise, when such oaths as may be on file in the Office of the Clerk of the County Court will be returned by you to this office, accompanied by a report of the total number of voters registered up to the time the Board shall cease to act.

(Signed) James. H Bell, Secretary of State.

Governor's Message

Executive Office
Austin Febry 10th 1866

Gentlemen of the Convention:

Having been informed, by a committee of your honorable body, of your organization and readiness to proceed to the business for which you have been convened, and to receive any communication which I may think proper to make, I feel it to be my duty to state to you, frankly, and as briefly as possible, my views upon the important subjects which will most probably engage your attention.

I received my appointment as Provisional Governor of Texas, from the President of the United States, on the 17th day of June Anno Domini, 1865. In his proclamation of that date, conferring the appointment, the President made it my duty, "at the earliest practicable period, to prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary and proper for convening a Convention, to be composed of Delegates to be chosen by that portion of the people of Texas who are loyal to the United States, and no others, for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution thereof;" and vesting in the "authority to exercise within the limits of said State, all the powers necessary and proper to enable such loyal people of the State of Texas to restore said State to its Constitutional relations to the Federal Government, &c, &c, provided, that in any election that may be hereafter held for choosing Delegates to any State Convention, as aforesaid, no person shall be qualified as an elector, or shall be eligible as a member of such Convention, unless he shall have previously taken and subscribed the oath of amnesty, as set forth in the President's proclamation of May 29th 1865, and is a voter qualified as prescribed by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, in force immediately before the 1st day of February, 1861."

The President's Amnesty Proclamation, of the 29th of May, made it the duty of the Secretary of State of the United States to prescribe rules and regulations for administering and recording the amnesty oath, so as to insure its benefits to the people, and guard the Government against fraud.

On the day of the issuance of the President's proclamation Mr Seward issued a circular from the Department of State, in which he directed that "the oath prescribed in the President's proclamation may be taken and subscribed before any commissioned Officer, civil, military or naval, in the service of the United States, or any civil or military officer of a loyal State or Territory, who, by the laws thereof, may be qualified for administering oaths."

From this it would be seen that according to a strict construction of the rules prescribed by the Secretary of State, none but a commissioned Officer, civil, military or naval, in the service of the United States, or a civil or military officer of a loyal

State or Territory, qualified by the laws thereof, for administering oaths, could properly administer the oath of amnesty and receive returns thereof. If I had acted upon this rule, as prescribed by the Secretary of State, large numbers of the people of Texas would have been unable to avail themselves of the clemency of the President, and thus qualify themselves to vote for Delegates to a Convention, within any reasonable time. Owing to the immense extent of our inhabited territory, many persons would have been obliged to travel great distances to find an officer competent to administer the oath of amnesty. Under these circumstances I determined to act in the spirit, rather than in strict accordance with the letter of my instructions. I ventured upon the plan of organizing a Board, in each county in the State, so constituted as to justify the expectation of fair and impartial action, for the purpose of administering the oath of Amnesty to the people, at the least possible expense and inconvenience. I fully appreciated the beneficent purpose of the President, and his anxiety that the people should qualify themselves, as speedily as possible, to vote for Delegates to a Convention. I confided confidently to the justice and liberality of the President to approve of a departure from my instructions, for the purpose of carrying into effect his policy; and I hoped that an arrangement intended to promote the interest and convenience of the people, would be appreciated, and received in a spirit of commendation, instead of complaint.

I have reason to believe that some persons who are entitled to respectful consideration, are of opinion that I transcended the powers vested in me by the President, when I authorized the Boards of Registration, established in the different Counties, to determine what persons were entitled, because of their loyalty to the Government of the United States, to be registered as voters; and also when I announced, in my proclamation of the 15th of November last, that persons who are within any of the exceptions to the President's Amnesty Proclamation, and who have not received a special pardon, were not eligible as Delegates to this Convention.

I think it proper, therefore, that I should briefly state my views upon these points. It is contended by some, as I am informed, that the President himself fixed the qualifications of voters, by the proviso contained in the second paragraph of his proclamation convening on me the appointment of Provisional Governor. I understand that proviso to be nothing more than a limitation of the power to me to prescribe rules and regulations for convening a Convention, composed of Delegates to be chosen by that portion of the people who are loyal to the United States. By that proviso the President placed it out of my power to prescribe rules that would permit any one to vote who had not taken the amnesty oath, and who did not possess the other qualifications prescribed for voters by the Constitution and laws in force in this State, immediately before the date of the ordinance of secession. The proviso was not intended to fix a rule for the benefit of the people. It was intended to fix a rule for me, in the nature of a limitation upon my powers, and for the purpose of guarding against weak and inconsiderate action on my part. In my judgment, it is a great mistake to assume that a man is to be

Considered loyal because he has taken the oath of amnesty. The President grants amnesty to the great body of the people, upon condition that they shall take the oath prescribed, and thereafter keep and maintain said oath inviolate. He does not act upon the supposition that every man who shall take the oath will thereby become loyal. He grants amnesty to the mass of those who have been in rebellion, because to show mercy is a part of the wise, magnanimous and parental policy of the Government, of which he is the head; and conditioning promises to support and defend the Constitution and the Union of the States, and to abide by and support the laws and proclamations which have been made during the rebellion, with reference to the emancipation of slaves, are exacted, that the clemency of the Government may not appear to be prostituted to dangerous and unworthy uses.

It had been the intention of the President to permit all persons to vote for Delegates to a Convention, who had taken the amnesty oath, and who possessed the qualifications prescribed for voters, by the Constitution and laws, in force in 1860, he would simply have made it my duty to convene a Convention to be composed of Delegates Chosen by such persons. There would, in that case, have been no propriety in laying stress upon the incident that none but loyal persons should be permitted to exercise the privilege of voting for Delegates. I was clear in my opinion that it was my duty to adopt the best means practicable to ascertain the loyal persons, to whom the privilege of voting could be safely be entrusted; and that no one was entitled to exercise that privilege, who was not registered in accordance with the provisions of my proclamation of the 19th of August, last.

I was equally clear upon the other point, that those who are within any of the exceptions to the general amnesty offered by the President in his proclamation of the 29th of May, 1865, and who have not received special pardon, are not qualified to sit as members of your honorable body. I would not have so declared in my proclamation of the 15th, of November, ordering the election of Delegates, if I had not felt it to be my duty to do so.

The oath prescribed in the President's proclamation of the 29th of May of last year, is aptly called "the oath of amnesty," because it secured amnesty to all for whom it was intended. The President says: "I hereby grant to all persons who have, directly or indirectly, participated in the existing rebellion, except as hereinafter excepted, amnesty and pardon, &c, &c." He afterwards specifies the "classes of persons who are declared to be excepted from the benefits of this proclamation." The amnesty oath is therefore intended only for those persons who are not excepted from the benefits of the proclamation. Suppose a person who is within one of the exceptions to the proclamation, to take the oath prescribed therein. What benefit results to him from taking the oath? It is not so far as he is concerned, an oath of amnesty, for it brings him amnesty to have.

For such a person to take this oath would be a mere idle and inoperative ceremony, were it not that the Attorney General of the United States, in a circular issued from his office on the 7th of June of last year, gave notice, by the direction of the President, that before application for pardon by persons belonging to the excepted classes enumerated in the President's Amnesty Proclamation of May 29th, 1865, would be considered, it would be shown that they have respectively taken and subscribed the oath (or affirmation) in said proclamation prescribed. It is only on the basis of such application to the President for pardon, that the taking of the oath prescribed in the amnesty proclamation, by any person

[illegible] clause of the excepted classes enumerated in that proclamation, has any significance. The person belonging to any of the excepted classes has taken the oath, and shall not make application to the President for pardon, he does do an unmeaning thing. His condition, in the estimation of the laws of the Country, is unchanged.

I could not expect to be informed that there are some gentlemen in the Convention who are entitled to the exceptions to the amnesty proclamation, and who have not obtained the pardon of the President. I regret that this is so. His due to respect, I may, that I have not alluded to this subject out of any want of personal respect for those gentlemen. I did what I believed to be my duty when I declared in my proclamation of the 18th of November, that such persons were not eligible as Delegates to the Convention. I allude to the subject now only for the purpose of explaining the views upon which I then acted. The pardon is the prerogative of the President. I have exercised this again, and I have not felt at liberty to vouch upon this single privilege. I have not enjoyed the advantage of frequent communication with the President, and I have therefore been obliged to act, for the most part, upon my own judgement respecting the duties which I have been supposed to owe, and the powers with which I was invested.

I now answer that I have been requested by many persons to issue additional orders upon the election for Delegates to a Convention at an earlier day. It has been said that I ought to have ordered the Convention to assemble as early as September of last year. This complaint is of a piece with that unreasoning criticism which assails every act (and especially every act of mine) which is not done in the utmost, or in accordance with the views of those who have speculated the Country into all unnecessary woes, and brought mourning and desolation to the homes of the South. I convened at the City of Austin in the early part of the month of August. If I had ordered an election for Delegates to a Convention to take place in the month of September, how many of the people of Texas could have been qualified to vote at such an election? Delay was unavoidable, in order to ascertain who were entitled to vote. I ordered the election as soon as I had reason to believe that a majority of the people of the State were registered as voters, and as soon as money could be provided to defray the expenses of a Convention. I am, however, free to say that when I convened in Texas, in July last, I did not believe that the public mind of the State was prepared for the immediate call of a Convention, even if such call had been in other respects practicable. Conventions were already called in some of the Southern States, with the evident purpose to obtain representation in Congress at the beginning of the present session. I did not believe that this purpose would be accomplished, and I felt that Texas might profit by the delay to which her people would be unavoidably subjected, if the march of events, and the developements which must necessarily result from the action of other States, should be thoughtfully observed. The last few months have been fruitful of events which deserve to be weighed and considered well by all who desire to see the country restored to that tranquility which it once enjoyed, and upon which its prosperity depends.

From the expectations manifested by the press of the State at the

unavoidable delay in calling a Convention, I had reason to hope that the great body of the people who had qualified themselves to vote, would participate in the election. Surely the magnitude of the interests to be committed to your charge together with the bitter experience resulting from the action of a minority Convention in the past, were sufficient to justify the expectation that the acts of this body would carry with them, all the weight and conclusion which ought of right, to belong to the conclusions of representatives, chosen by a majority of the people. I would be warranting in a belief if I did not declare that the apathy manifested by the people in the recent election fills me with deep concern. From the returns made to the Department of State, and the reports that have reached me from various portions of the State, there is reason to believe that less than half of the registered voters of the State participated in the election.

This fact cannot, of course, unpower the power of the Convention to proceed in the discharge of the high trust committed to it, but will, perhaps, in your estimation, as it does in mine, furnish a weighty reason why the result of your deliberations should be submitted to the people, for their ratification or rejection.

To what extent it is expected by the people, or may be thought proper by you, to remodel the Constitution of the State, I do not know. No one, however, can doubt that it is expected by the President, the Congress and the people of the United States, that such changes will be made in the organic law of this State, as will make it conform, in its spirit and principles, to the actual changes that attended the progress of the late war, and followed the overthrow of the rebellion. There can be no doubt that it is expected by the country that you will embrace, within the scope of your action, a clear and explicit denial, in such form as may seem to you proper, of the right of Texas to secede or withdraw from the Federal Union: a right assumed by an unauthorized and revolutionary body of men in 1861, sitting in this Hall: a right then invoked to justify rebellion against the free and paternal government instituted by the patriot sires of '76, and justly esteemed as the best hope of freedom in the world.

It cannot be thought unreasonable that the people of the United States should desire a formal and solemn recantation of a political heresy so dangerous to their peace and liberties. It may be said that no act of this, or any other body of men in this State, can destroy the right, if it exists, or settle the question in any authoritative manner: and this may be urged as a reason for declining to take action upon it. It may be well to bear in mind that the people of the United States are not looking to this body for a settlement of this question. The question is transferred by the action of the Southern people, from the tribunal of reason to the field of battle, and has been settled there by a series of events, the memory of which is likely to endure as long as the American name itself. The country has a right to look to this body for evidence of an acquiescence in that settlement, as it has been made, and for such further action as will bind the people of Texas, in the most solemn manner, to make that acquiescence perfect. So much has been predicated upon the doctrine of the right of secession, so much claimed and done by the people of the South to maintain it, to justify the people of the United States in accepting silence as an implied admission of error. They are not likely to be so credulous: and if there is disposed to be so, the utterances of some of the leading presses of the country during the past three months, would enlighten them.

The rebellion lately maintained against the government of the United States was declared, by those who organized it, to be for the protection of the institution of slavery, which was alleged to be in danger of extinction from the action of that government. And from the inception of the war, all thoughtful and sagacious men perceived that the main issue involved in the contest was the overthrow of the government or the overthrow of slavery. I should be false to what I believe to be the clearest truth, if I did not say that the issue was tendered by the people of the South. The government of the United States accepted the issue. The battle has been fought: amongst the most memorable certainly in the annals of mankind. Slavery has fallen, never to rise again on this Continent, unless, in the providence of God, another might should settle upon this western world, like that which followed the downfall of the Roman power, in which both liberty and civilization should be lost.

It is not now necessary to controvert the opinions of those who maintained that the proclamation of the President of the United States, declaring the freedom of the slaves of the South, was but a military order, which was no longer operative after the cessation of actual hostilities. The wise and beneficent spirit of that proclamation, has, by the voice of the American people, assumed the form of Constitutional law. It is now the supreme law of the land that Slavery, or involuntary servitude, except for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall not exist in any State or Territory of the Union. I doubt not that you will concur with me that this radical change in the condition of those persons in our State who were formerly in slavery, ought to be fully recognized in the Constitution, and their new condition provided for. It is, of course, not now necessary to incorporate in the Constitution of the State, a provision against the future existence of slavery in Texas, since by virtue of the amended Constitution of the United States, it cannot exist here. But it may nevertheless be eminently proper for you to manifest in some unmistakable manner, your approbation of the great act of the nation, and your cheerful acquiescence in it.

The debt created by those who were in authority in Texas, during the rebellion, in support of the war against the government of the United States is not, in my judgement, such an obligation upon the people of Texas as will find favor with any loyal citizen, or with the government and people of the United States. To provide for the payment of this debt would be equivalent to a justification of the purposes for which it was created. There is one thought, in this connection, which I think it proper to present. Even if the feelings of the people of Texas inclined them to provide for the payment of this debt, which I would fain believe to be far from the truth, it would not be just to impose such a burthen upon loyal citizens from other sections of the Union, who have not been in rebellion, who may come to settle amongst us, or upon emigrants from foreign countries, who may be attracted, by the advantages which present themselves, to seek homes within our borders.

I am of opinion that a failure to guard the people, by an appropriate provision, against taxation for the payment of this debt, would be unsatisfactory to them, and justly offensive to the government of the United States. It may be difficult to ascertain accurately that portion of the public debt of the State which was incurred in support of the war-

I have reason to believe that more than three-fourths of the indebtedness which has accrued since the commencement of the war, was created in its support. As a means of facilitating your investigations upon this subject, I respectfully refer you to the report of Ex-Gov. E. H. Pease, and Swante Palm, Esquire, copies of which will be furnished to your honorable body.

In this connection I feel it to be my duty to remind you that land scrip to a considerable amount was purchased during the progress of the late rebellion, and paid for in the paper money issued by the government of the Confederate States. Perhaps, in some instances, these payments for land scrip were made in Treasury warrants of the State.

Payments were also made, during the rebellion, in Confederate money, for portions of the University lands, sold under a law of the State, enacted before the passage of the ordinance of secession. The Commissioner of the Land Office and the Comptroller of Public Accounts can furnish such information on these subjects as may be desired by your honorable body.

The most important questions, gentlemen, to which you will be required, by the peculiar circumstances in which we are placed, to direct your attention, grow out of the emancipation of those who were formerly in a state of bondage, and who still remain in our midst. Our former slaves are declared by the Constitution of the United States to be free. Shall we treat that declaration as a mere form of words, or shall we receive it as a living truth? Shall we repose upon the postulate that the act of emancipation is only a wrong done to us, or shall we question honestly with ourselves concerning its significance? It seems to me that the events of the past seven years should abate, somewhat, our pride of opinion. We have seen a new inauguration of the proposition of slavery, resulting in the declaration, by the most powerful of the nations of the earth, that it shall no longer exist. Let us not deceive ourselves by the supposition that the nation will fail to make that declaration good, or to redeem fully the high obligations which it has assumed in this behalf, before the civilized world.

In my judgment, there could not be devised a more successful mode of procrastinating our return to our original position in the Union, than to deny to the freedmen, in our midst, those civil rights and privileges, without which, to call them free would be only "to keep the word of promise to the ear, and break it to the hope".

I cannot appreciate know the individual views of the gentlemen who compose this body; but I have reason to apprehend, from what has met my eye, in the form of published circulars to the people, before whom many of you were candidates, and leading articles in many of the most influential presses of the State, that measures on this subject will not be acceptable to a majority of the members of this Convention. But I feel that the present is not a time for any to err most of all for one placed in a highly responsible position, to dissemble his honest convictions and opinions, out of any reasonable apprehension that his views will not accord with the immature and timid judgment of those who are yet wedded to the prejudices of the past.

It is a favorite phrase of many that "this is a white mans Government" and it is declared to be the main duty of those who represent the people, at the present time, to take care that it shall continue to be so. I thank God that this is a white mans Government, and humbly trust that the time will never come when it shall cease to be so. But if, by the declaration that this is a white mans Government, it is meant that the black man is to be excluded from its benefits, and forever wholly debarred from the exercise

political privileges under it, then I most respectfully take issue with the proposition, as a matter of fact, and with the views of those by whom it is maintained. Black men do now enjoy, and have long enjoyed the exercise of political privileges, as well as of civil rights, under the Government of the United States. The election of a President of the United States might, by possibility, be determined by the vote of black men, in the great State of New York. Is it then a matter of fact that this Government is not the Government of the black man as well as of the white? And if, in the past, black men have enjoyed civil rights, and been admitted to the exercise of political privileges under the Government of the United States, is it likely that the act of emancipation, which is regarded by a majority of the nation as a great and glorious event in the history of the human race, will not be followed, in due time, by the enlargement of the rights and privileges of the people who are declared to be enfranchised?

In my judgment, gentlemen, it is the part of wisdom to provide in the organic law of the State, that the freedmen in our midst shall enjoy civil rights, on an equality with the white population of the State. By civil rights, I mean the right to sue in the Courts of the Country and to testify under the same rules that apply to the admissibility of the testimony of white persons; to acquire and hold property, real and personal, and to be placed upon an equality with white men in respect to the punishment of crimes.

More than this, I believe it would be unwise to exclude the freedmen in our midst, from the exercise of political privileges, by making the enjoyment of these privileges to depend upon the accident of birth or color. I wish to be perfectly frank in the statement of my views, but I do not wish to be misunderstood. I do not believe that the great mass of the freedmen in our midst are qualified by their intelligence, to exercise the right of suffrage, and I do not desire to see this privilege conferred upon them. But I think that progress is the great law of mind, under every government, and I do not believe that any policy can be enduring or permanent in this country which is based upon accidental circumstances and the "traditions of prejudice," instead of being founded upon the eternal principles of truth and justice. If we fail to look over-shadow now upon principle — if we fail to make political privileges depend upon rules of universal application, we will inevitably be betrayed into the error of legislating under the influence of ancient prejudices, and with a view only to the present. I think that human wisdom cannot discern what is to be the future of the African race in this country. Let us not, therefore, arrogate to ourselves the attribute of Omniscience, and assume that the freedman will never attain to that measure of intelligence which will qualify him to exercise the privilege of voting for those who are to make the laws by which he will be governed.

I would not be willing to deprive any man who is qualified under existing laws to vote, of the exercise of that privilege in the future. But I believe it would be wise to regulate the qualifications of those who are to become voters hereafter, by rules of universal application. I think it would be a very difficult task to fix such qualifications for the exercise of the right of suffrage as would be

Satisfactory to the nation, and in no degree detrimental to the interests of the people of the State.

I feel, gentlemen, that I should be wanting in the full discharge of my duty on this occasion, if I did not warn you, and the people through you, of the evil results which may be expected to follow any repetition of legislation in the Southern States, intended to operate on & oppress the freedmen, and to keep them in a condition of necessary dependence upon their former masters, at the same time that their nominal freedom is acknowledged. Justice requires that the national government should see to it that this now depressed and degraded race shall be protected in the beneficial enjoyment of the general boon which has been accorded to them. Any system of laws, therefore, intended to deprive them of the actual fruits of liberty, will meet with resistance from the Congress of the United States. Such legislation in other States has already aroused the attention of the nation, and I feel assured that a repetition of it in Texas will but increase the jealous watchfulness. Even if such legislation could meet with toleration for the present, which is not to be expected, it would be but the beginning of another agitation which would necessarily result in the triumph of the views of the majority of the nation. We are not without experience of the fruits of such agitation. The late triumph of reaction was but the culmination of a protracted effort on the part of a minority of the nation to impose their views upon the majority. I sincerely hope, gentlemen, that you will thoughtfully consider what is the path of duty, and safety, and that your labors may be influential to restore peace and tranquility to the country — not a hollow and unsubstantial peace, but a peace, real and fruitful, that may redound to the permanent glory of the nation.

Not knowing, gentlemen, how far you may think proper to make alterations in the present Constitution of the State, in relation to its general civil polity, I forbear to make suggestions which I might otherwise deem proper.

I beg you, gentlemen, to accept the assurance of my high respect for you personally, and of my cordial disposition to confer with you freely during the continuance of your labors.

(Signed) A J Hamilton

Executive Office
Austin Texas Feby 16 1866

Whereas at a special term of the District Court of the County of Ellis in said State of Texas held in the town of Waxahachie in the month of December 1865. one Julius Angleman was indicted by the Grand Jury, for selling ardent or spirituous Liquors, in violation of a Statute prohibiting the sale of such spirits within five miles of the Court House of said Ellis County, and upon the trial of said indictment the said Julius Angleman was found in the sum of Two hundred Dollars the lowest penalty under the Statute for such offence: And whereas it whereas it appears from the representations and petition of sundry respectable and worthy citizens of Ellis County- cognizance of the Grand and petit Jurors before whom the indictment was found and tried that said offence was committed under a misapprehension and belief that the Statute under which the indictment was found was repealed and annulled by the Proclamation issued from this Department on the Fifth day of September 1865. and that said Angleman did not commit the offence with any intent or design to violate the law.

Now therefore, I Andrew J Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas in consideration of the circumstances, together with the general good character of the said Angleman as a correct law abiding citizen, do, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State, hereby release and remit the fine of Two hundred Dollars, leaving the judgment for all Costs in full force against the said Julius Angleman.

In testimony, Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at the City of Austin, the day and year above written, and caused the great Seal to be affixed.

A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

By the Governor
James H Bell
Secretary of State.

State Department
Austin Texas Feby 23. 1866

C B Quey
Chief Justice
Austin County

Sir

You are hereby directed to order that an election be held in the town of San Filipe in the County of Austin for the Municipal Officers thereof authorized by law, giving the notice required under the Charter incorporating said Town of San Filipe for holding said election, provided the citizens thereof desire said election.

By Direction of the Governor
Joseph Spence
Act'g Secretary of State

Executive Office
Austin Texas 1st March 1866

Sir:

I am in receipt of your communication of this date, in which, as Agent and Attorney of George W. White and John Chiles you tender to me as "Provisional Governor" Five thousand three hundred and eighty seven dollars in Texas Seven per cent Bonds, One hundred and twelve thousand dollars in eight per cent Texas State Bonds and Seven thousand six hundred and thirty nine dollars in Texas State Treasury Warrants, making in the aggregate the sum of One Hundred and Twenty five thousand and twenty dollars. You inform me that you tender them "as a payment for One Hundred and fifty six thousand two hundred and seventy five Dollars United States Texas Indemnity Bonds and Coupons that the said George W. White and John Chiles purchased from the Military Board of the State of Texas on the 12th day of January 1865" which Board was composed of F. Murrah, Governor of the State of Texas and Ex-Officio President of said Board and W. B. Pearce and James S. Holman as members of said Board and as a payment on the Bond executed by the said White & Chiles as principals and T. H. Chandler W. W. Watts, Wm. M. Watts, L. D. Carrington, J. Harrell and James P. Neal as securities payable to the State of Texas in the sum of One Hundred and fifty six Thousand Two Hundred and Seventy Five Dollars, date January 12th 1865; which contract and Bond bound the said White and Chiles to pay the last named amount to the State of Texas in Cotton Cards and Medicines at a price or prices specified in said Contract and Bond or in the seven per cent or eight per cent Bonds of the State of Texas or State Treasury Warrants

At their (the said State and Texas) option. The United States Texas Indemnity Bonds and Coupons to be retired at Eighty cents on the dollar and the Seven and eight per cent State Bonds and Treasury Warrants at par."

I decline receiving said State Bonds and Treasury Warrants as a payment for said United States Texas Indemnity Bonds and Coupons or for any other purpose for the reasons following.

1st The said Military Board was the creature of a revolutionary State Government at war with the Government of the United States, and was created for the purpose of aiding the rebellion then existing against the legitimate authority of the Government and could not bind the present or any future State Government by any of its acts or contracts.

2nd The seven and eight per cent State Bonds tendered (and I suppose the State Warrants also) are worthless and void, having been created by revolutionary authority in aid of the then existing rebellion against the Government and authority of the United States and will not be permitted by said Government to be paid or respected.

3rd The law or pretended law creating said Military Board and all the acts of said Board were in direct and palpable contravention of the Constitution of the United States and of its laws and authority and were and are utterly null and void.

4th I can recognize nothing done by any authority or pretended authority in aid of the rebellion or intended to aid the same directly or indirectly as binding upon the State of Texas now or ever hereafter.

5th The tender you make would not, if received, be a payment or satisfaction for the United States Texas Indemnity Bonds received by Gen'l's White & Chiles.

Very Respectfully
Your Ob't Serv't
(Signed) A J Hamilton
Prov Gov of Texas

E M Chandler Esq
Austin Texas

The State of Texas.

To all and singular; the Sheriffs, Constables and other civil officers of said State Greeting—

Whereas it has been made known to me by the Governor of Louisiana that George K. Cooke late of said State, stands charged by affidavit in the Parish of Orleans in said State with the Crime of Embezzlement, and that the said G.K. Cooke has fled from justice in said State of Louisiana and may have taken refuge in the State of Texas".

And Whereas the said Governor of the State of Louisiana in pursuance of the Constitution and Laws of the United States has demanded of me that I cause the said George K. Cooke to be arrested and delivered to Andrew J. Moyers the duly authorized agent appointed by said Governor of the State of Louisiana to receive said George K. Cooke into Custody and convey him back to the State of Louisiana there to be dealt with according to law.

And Whereas, the said representation and demand are accompanied by the affidavit of J.B. Peterson sworn to and subscribed before me Gustave Kruble Recorder of the First District and Justice of the Peace City of New Orleans.

Now Therefore, I, Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of this State and of the United States, hereby command, commanding all Sheriffs, Constables and other Civil Officers of this State to arrest and to aid and assist in arresting the said George K. Cooke and deliver him when arrested to the said Andrew J. Moyers agent of said State of Louisiana in order that he may be taken back to the State of Louisiana to be dealt with for the said Offence of Embezzlement, according to law.

In testimony whereof, I have hereto signed my name, and caused the great seal of the State to be affixed at the city of Austin this the Twenty third day of March A.D. 1865, and in the year of the Independence of the United States the Ninetieth.

(Signed) A.J. Hamilton
Provisional Gov. of Texas.

By the Governor
Jno. W. Fell
Secretary of State

State of Texas }
County of Travis. }

Know all men by these presents that we Robert H Taylor as principal and George H Smith, L B Camps, H M Varnell, Nardon Hart, J H Flanagan and J J Parker as sureties are firmly bound unto A J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, and his successors in Office, for the use of the State of Texas, in the full and just sum of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars lawful money, for the payment of which, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves jointly and severally, our heirs and several heirs, Executors and Administrators, firmly by these presents, sealed with our seals (our seals being our own) and dated this Twenty Six day of March. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty Six.

The condition of the foregoing obligation is such; that whereas, the said Robert H Taylor has this day been appointed and Commissioned to the office of Comptroller of the State of Texas by Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of said State: Now therefore, if the said R H Taylor shall truly and faithfully execute and discharge all of the duties of said office of Comptroller according to law, then the above obligation to be void and of no effect, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Robert H Taylor
G H Smith
L B Camps
H M Varnell
Nardon Hart
J H Flanagan
J J Parker.

Approved 27th March 1866.
A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas.

I, Robert H Taylor, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and impartially discharge and perform all the duties incumbent on me as Comptroller of Public Accounts according to the best of my skill and ability, agreeable to the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas; And I do further solemnly swear that since the adoption of the Constitution of the State of Texas by the Congress of the United States, I being a citizen of this State have not fought a duel with deadly weapons within this State, nor out of it, nor have I accepted a Challenge to fight a duel with deadly weapons, nor have I acted as second in carrying a Challenge, nor aided, advised, or assisted any one so offending; And I do further swear that to the best of my knowledge and ability, I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies foreign or domestic: that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will in good faith observe and support the Laws of Congress and the Proclamations of the President of the United States in relation to slavery; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, So help me God.

Robert H Taylor

Sworn to and subscribed before me
This 27th day of March. 1866.
A J Hamilton Pro. Gov of Texas.

Filed in the State Department March 27. 1866.
Joseph Spence
Chief Clerk State Dept.

State Department
Austin Texas March 28. 1866

O M P Garrett
Chief Justice
Washington County.
Sir.

It having been represented to this Dept that the Citizens of the Town of Independence in the County of Washington were organized into an incorporation under the general Law for the incorporation of Towns and Cities passed by the Legislature of the State on the 27th day of January 1858 and that the provisions of said Law have been complied with and that said Town of Independence is now without corporate or municipal officers and it being the desire of the citizens to have said officers, you are hereby directed to order that an election be held in said Town of Independence for such municipal officers as are created by said Act of incorporation, after giving the notice required by the Law governing elections in such incorporated Towns and cities.

By direction of the Governor

Very Respectfully
Joseph H Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

Executive Department
Austin Texas April 2. 1866.

To the Governor of the
State of Louisiana.

Whereas, It appears by the annexed documents, which are hereby certified to be authentic, that Thomas J Mackey stands charged by Indictment in the County of Lamar with the crime of Murder, Committed in said County of Lamar in the State of Texas, and information having been received that the said Thomas J Mackey has fled from justice and taken refuge in the State of Louisiana.

Therefore, I Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of said State of Texas do in pursuance of the Constitution and Laws of the United States, in such cases made and provided, demand and require the apprehension and surrender of the said Thomas J Mackey as a fugitive from justice, and that he be delivered to Oscar Johnson and C M Selden, or either of them who are hereby appointed agents on the part of the State of Texas to receive said Thomas J Mackey and carry him back to said State to be dealt with according to law.

In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of State to be affixed at Austin the Second day of April A.D. 1866.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas.

By the Governor:
James H Bell
Secretary of State

State of Texas.

By Andrew J Hamilton

Provisional Governor of the State of Texas.

In the name and by the Authority of the State of Texas.

To all who shall see these presents — Greeting.

Know Ye, That reposing especial trust and confidence in the Integrity, Diligence and ability of Oscar Johnson and C W T Welden, I do hereby appoint them Agents on the part of this State, to proceed to the State of Louisiana for the purpose of demanding and receiving, from the proper authorities of the said State of Louisiana a Requisition for my Justice from the State of Texas, charged with the crime of murder, and I do hereby authorize and direct the said Oscar Johnson and C W T Welden to receive said Requisition, bring him to this State, and deliver him to the Sheriff of the County of Lamar.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed at Austin the Second day of April A D 1846.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas

By the Governor
James H Bell
Secretary of State

Executive Office
Austin Texas April 7th 1866.

Whereas it has been made known to me, that at a Term of the District Court held in the County of Dawson in the Spring of the Year 1865. one A J Andrews was fined in the sum of Fifty Dollars for selling Eight gallons of Whiskey in the Town of Dent North in said County of Dawson in violation of and Contrary to a Statute passed by the Legislature of the State prohibiting the sale of Ardent Spirits within four and one-half miles of the Court house in the Town of Dent North; and it appearing from the petition and representations of said Andrews corroborated by many worthy Citizens, together with the transcript from the County Court of Dawson County, that the Cigars were sold by him as administrator of the Estate of one J C Andrews deceased, in obedience to an order issued from the County Court of said Dawson County directing the personal effects of said deceased to be sold at public sale; that he was in no way interested in the sale save as administrator and that he acted in obedience to and under the order of said County Court without any idea intention or desire to violate the laws of the Country.

In consideration Therefore of the premises and because of the character the said A J Andrews bears as a correct law abiding citizen, I Andrew J Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the same do hereby release and remit the fine of Fifty Dollars imposed upon the said A J Andrews for the offence aforesaid, leaving the judgment for all costs in full force.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of State to be affixed at the City of Austin the Seventh day of April A. D. 1866.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

By the Governor
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State

State of Texas

To all whom it may concern:

Whereas the City Council of the City of Brownsville did on the 17th day of February A.D. 1841 impose and levy a city or corporate Tax on the property and citizens of said city of Brownsville and Whereas it is feared a question may be made as to the power and authority of said City Council to levy said tax by reason of the city officers not having received Commissions of appointment from the Provisional Governor:

Now therefore be it known that the acts of the said City Council of the City of Brownsville are hereby affirmed and ratified in the same manner and to the extent they would have been, had the several members composing said City Council been regularly appointed and commissioned by me-

In testimony Whereof I have set my name and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed at the City of Austin on the Twelfth day of April A.D. 1841

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas

By the Governor
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State

Executive Office
Austin Texas 14th April 1841

My Dear Madam

It is with sincere pleasure that I now perform the duty of calling your attention to two acts of the late Convention- the one a "Resolution of respect to Gen Houston" the other "an ordinance appropriating money to pay salary of Governor Houston for unexpired term &c" I herewith enclose a copy of the first which will explain itself. I cannot express to you how grateful it is to my heart that at last, even Gen Houstons late enemies have been compelled, in deference to public opinion, to thus publicly acknowledge his eminent nobility, patriotism and public services. You will perceive that by the resolution it is made my duty to procure and place in the Representative Hall a full length Portrait of Gen Houston "to commemorate his distinguished services and perpetuate his memory" I have secured one or two such Pictures, but shall certainly take no steps in the matter without your full concurrence. I have had a letter from a Gentleman by the name of G Bekne which I enclose.

If you know anything of the Picture and approve it please inform me. I know of a Picture of the General in New York life size, but not full length - a Photograph painted which is certainly the finest likeness of him that I have ever seen - in fact it is perfectly lifelike but inasmuch as the resolution contemplates a full length Portrait it will of course be preferred if a faithful one can be obtained. Knowing that you will feel a deeper interest in this than I or any one living can, I respectfully request such information as you may possess upon the subject and such suggestions and direction as you may think proper to give me, as early as may suit your convenience.

The Ordinance directs that I "cause to be paid out of any monies in the Treasury of the State not otherwise appropriated to the Widow of Gen'l Sam. Houston Nineteen Hundred and Twenty five Dollars the amount due him as Governor of the State for the full term for which he was elected." This amount, I have to day, upon the suggestion of the Treasurer of the State, Mr Samuel Swartwout, directed it to be set apart in gold, which is now and will remain subject to your order.

With sincere wishes for the health and happiness of yourself and family

I am Most Sincerely and Truly
Your Friend & Ob't Servant

(Signed) A J Hamilton

Mrs M M Houston
Independence
Texas.

Proclamation by the Governor.

Whereas, By an ordinance passed by the State Convention, assembled in the City of Austin, the 7th day of February, 1866 an election was ordered to be held in the several counties in this State, on the fourth Monday in June, A. D. 1866, for the election of "all the State, District and County officers, who under the Constitution and laws are elected by the people" and

Whereas, By another ordinance passed by said Convention, the proposed amendments to the Constitution are required to be submitted to a vote of the people for ratification or rejection on the said fourth Monday in June 1866 and the Provisional Governor is authorized and requested to issue his proclamation as early as may be ordering the election contemplated by the ordinances aforesaid.

Now therefore, I, Andrew J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me do hereby order and direct that an election be held in the several Counties in the State, on the 28th day of June, A. D. 1866, (the same being the fourth Monday of the month) for the election of "all the State, District and County officers, who, under the Constitution and laws are elected by the

people", to wit: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Comptroller of Public Accounts, State Treasurer, Commissioner of the General Land, Judges of the Supreme court, (five or three, as the case may be, depending upon the ratification or rejection of the ammendments to the Constitution) Attorney General, Judges of the District courts and District Attorneys for the several Judicial Districts, Senators and Representatives to the State Legislature; and one County Judge, (or Chief Justice if the ammendments to the Constitution are rejected) four County Commissioners, one District Court Clerk, one County Court Clerk, one Sheriff, one County Treasurer, one Assessor and Collector of Taxes, one County Surveyor, two Justices of the Peace and one Constable for each precinct, and one Coroner, for each County in the State; and also "for the adoption or rejection of the ammendments" proposed to the Constitution of the State.

The Chief Justices (or in case of vacancy in that office or any inability of that officer to act, then any two of the County Commissioners) of the several counties in the State, will give due notice and cause polls to be opened at the several precincts in their respective counties, on the said fourth Monday (the 25th day) of June, A.D. 1866, for the election of "all the State, District and County officers aforesaid, who, under the Constitution and laws are elected by the people," and shall also cause polls to "be opened and a register made of all persons voting on the ammendments to the Constitution" which vote shall be expressed "for the ammendments" or "against the ammendments" and be by ballot; and make returns of said election as prescribed by law; except (as prescribed by an ordinance of the Convention) "that the presiding officers of the several precincts in the different counties shall make their returns within five days after said election, and the Chief Justice shall open and count out said vote, on the fifth day after said election; and where two or more counties compose a district the returns shall be made to the returning Chief Justice of the district on the twelfth day after the election"

The returns for Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be in duplicate, one of which shall be transmitted carefully sealed up to the seat of Government directed to the Speaker of the House of Representatives "Endorsed election returns for — County for Governor and Lieutenant Governor;" and the other shall be deposited in the office of the Clerk of the County Court.

The returns for the several State and District officers (except for Governor and Lieutenant Governor) including Senators and Representatives to the State Legislature, and returns of the vote on the ammendments to the Constitution shall be in duplicate carefully sealed up, one of which shall be transmitted to the seat of government, addressed to the "Secretary of State, endorsed election returns for — County for State and District officers, and on the ammendments to the Constitution;" and the other shall be deposited in the office of the Clerk of the County Court.

The returns for the several county officers shall be in duplicate, carefully sealed up, one of which shall be transmitted to the seat of government directed to the "Secretary of State, endorsed election returns for County officers for — County; and the other deposited in the office of the Clerk of the County Court; and the Clerk of the County Court shall make returns to the Secty of State of the date upon which the several County officers qual-

The returning officers are strictly enjoined to make their returns promptly as required by law.

In pursuance of the provisions of the ordinance of the Convention, providing for the election of State, district and County officers, "the officers elected shall hold their respective offices from the date of their installation to the first Monday in August, A. D. 1841, and thereafter for the full term prescribed by law as if elected on said first Monday" and "the Legislature of the State of Texas shall meet at the seat of government thereof, and begin their sessions on the first Monday in August, A. D. 1841;" and

Whereas, By the ordinance defining the constitution of the State, it is provided that "the amendments submitted to the people shall present the whole constitution as proposed to be amended:"

It is therefore hereby ordered and directed that the new constitution be published (for the information of the people) for four successive weeks in the Southern Intelligencer, San Antonio Express, Planters Weekly Bulletin, Houston Weekly Telegraph, Marshall Republican, and Mc Kinney Messenger, and the papers throughout the State are requested to give publicity to the time of holding the election herein ordered.

In testimony whereof I hereto sign name and cause the seal of State to be affixed, at the City of Austin, the sixteenth day of April, April, A. D. 1841, and of the year of the Independence of the United States the ninetieth.

(signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Gov of Texas

By the Governor
James H Bell
Secretary of State.

Austin April 11. 1876.

Hon. James H Bell
Secretary of State.

The undersigned, proprietors of the Southern Intelligencer, in response to invitations for bids for the purpose, propose to print, fold, stitch, trim, index and deliver The Journals of the Convention for the sum of Three 50/100 per page in specie, or its equivalent in Currency at the time of payment: To be printed in small pica type 27 ems wide, and 43 lines long, exclusive of folio and foot lines.

($3.50 per page specie)

Very Respectfully.
(Signed) Brown & Foster.

State Department
Austin Texas April 18. 1876.

Messrs Brown & Foster
Austin Texas,

Gentlemen.

Your bid for printing the Journals of the Convention as contemplated by a resolution of that body, has been accepted. If any conditions are imposed by the ordinance or resolution of the Convention providing for the printing of the Journals you will immediately comply with them and enter at once upon the discharge of the work.

Col N. L. Chambers, Secretary of the Convention, who will superintend the printing of the Journals has been notified that you have been awarded the printing. You will therefore call upon him for the Journals.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

Executive Office
Austin Texas May 2. 1844

Whereas it has been made known to me, that one Columbus L. Revises was tried and found guilty of the crime of Theft at the Spring Term 1844 of the District Court for the County of Cherokee in said State of Texas, and was sentenced by the Jury to one imprisonment for said offence in the State Penitentiary for the term of Five Years: And Whereas it appears from petitions asking for his reprieve, signed by the Grand Jurors who found the Indictment, the Jury before whom he was tried and the Judge and District Attorney who tried him as well as by many respectable and worthy Citizens of Cherokee County that there are mitigating Circumstances in the case (he having been over persuaded to the commission of the crime by another) and that from the youth and peculiar condition of the criminal (he being about Seventeen years of age, an orphan and having the use of but one arm) he is a proper subject of Executive clemency.

Now therefore, I Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the same, do hereby grant unto the said Columbus L. Revises a reprieve and full Pardon for said offence, and the officer or officers having him in charge are hereby directed to release and discharge said Columbus L Revises from Confinement.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my Hand and Caused the Seal of State to be affixed the day and date above written.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

By the Governor
Joseph W. Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

Executive Department
Austin Texas May 7th 1866.

To the Governor of the State of Louisiana

Whereas, It appears by the papers hereto annexed which are hereby certified to be authentic that Thomas Love stands charged with the crime of Rape upon the person of a young girl, seven years of age, Committed in the State of Texas, and information having been received that the said Thomas Love has fled from justice and taken refuge in the State of Louisiana. Therefore I. A. J. Hamilton Provisional Governor of the State of Texas in pursuance of the provisions of the Constitution and Laws of the United States hereby demand the arrest and surrender of the said Thomas Love as a fugitive from justice and that he be delivered to John H. Westerlage, who is hereby appointed the Agent on the part of the State to receive the said Thomas Love and to convey him back to said State to be dealt with according to Laws.

Given under my hand and the Seal of State affixed at the City of Austin, this the Seventh day of May A. D. 1866 and of the Independence of the United States the Ninetieth.

(Signed) A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

By the Governor
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State

State of Texas

By Andrew J. Hamilton Provisional Gov. of the State of Texas

In the Name and by the Authority of the State of Texas.

To all who shall see these presents, -- Greeting: Know Ye, That reposing special Trust and Confidence in the Integrity, Diligence and ability of John H. Westerlage, I do hereby appoint him Agent on the part of this State, to proceed to the State of Louisiana for the purpose of demanding and receiving, from the proper authorities of the said State Thomas Love as Fugitive from justice from the State of Texas, charge with the crime of Rape and I do hereby authorize and direct the said John H. Westerlage to received said fugitive, bring him to this State, and deliver him to the Sheriff of the County of Galveston.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name, and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, at the City of Austin, this Seventh day of May. A. D. 1866, and in the Year of the Independence of the United States the ninetieth, and of Texas the Ninety first.

(Signed) A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

By The Governor
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State

The State of Texas:

Proclamation By the Governor.

$250 ⁰⁰ Reward!

Whereas it has been made known to me, that one John Carlson, did on the 17th day of May, 1866, in the County of Williamson, in said State, Kill one Augustus Nelson, and that the said John Carlson is now a fugitive from justice.

Now, Therefore I. A. J. Hamilton, Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, do, by virtue of the authority vested in me by law, offer a Reward of ($250.00) Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, in Gold or its equivalent, for the arrest and delivery of the said John Carlson to the Sheriff of Williamson County, to be dealt with according to law.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, at Austin, this twenty-sixth day of May, 1866, and in the year of the Independence of the United States, the Ninetieth

(Signed) A. J. Hamilton

By the Governor;

Provisional Governor of Texas

Executive Office
Austin Texas May 28 1866.

Whereas it has been made known to me that at the Spring Term 1866 of the District Court begun and held in the City of Austin for the County of Travis, one Sandford Dobs (a freedman) was tried and convicted of the crime of Petit Stealing one clevis worth one dollar and it appearing from the representations not only of the accused but of respectable citizens of Travis County that the evidence before the Jury as to the guilt of the said Dobs was conflicting, and the punishment for the crime (two years Confinement in the State Penitentiary) is in this instance harsh and oppressive and the accused having already been in the County Jail for some length of time because of said offence and having heretofore borne a good character for honesty he is deemed a proper subject for Executive Clemency.

Now, therefore, I, Andrew J Hamilton Provisional Governor of Texas by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State, do hereby grant to the said Sandford Dobs a full pardon for said offence and the officer or officers having him in charge are hereby directed to release and discharge said Dobs from Confinement for said offence.

In Testimony Whereof I have to sign my name and cause the Seal of State to be affixed at Austin this day and year first above written—

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas.

By the Governor
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

Executive Office
Austin Texas May 28. 1866

Whereas it has been made known to me, that at a Term of the District Court begun and held in the County of McLennan in the Spring of 1866, one Eli Bradley (a freedman) was tried and found guilty upon an Indictment for Larceny, and sentenced to Confinement in the State Penitentiary for the term of two years:

And Whereas from Petitions Signed by the District Judg and District Attorney before and by whom he was tried, and by several of the Jurors by whom he was convicted as well as by many respectable citizens of McLennan County, it appears that the said Eli Bradley has heretofore borne a good and reputable character for honesty and industry, and that the offence for which he is convicted (Stealing a cake Supper) to be worth fifty cents) committed under peculiar circumstances, and the punishment for the same is deemed greatly disproportioned to the crime and from all the circumstances surrounding the case, that he is a proper subject for Executive Clemency.

Now, Therefore I, Andrew J Hamilton, Provisional Governor of Texas, do, hereby, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State grant unto the said Eli Bradley a full pardon for said offence, and the officer or officers having him in charge, are hereby directed to release and discharge said Eli Bradley from Confinement for said offence.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name, and caused the Seal of State to be affixed, at Austin, the day and year first above written.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

By the Governor,
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State.

The State of Texas.

Know all men by these presents that I, A J Hamilton, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas, have this day appointed C. C. Stevens, to take charge of, manage and safely keep the Geological and Mineralogical Specimens belonging to the State of Texas, together with the building known as the "Old Land Office" as well as all furniture, books, papers and records belonging or in anywise pertaining to the same, and all persons who have charge of such property belonging to the State are directed to deliver the same to C. C. Stevens.

In testimony whereof I have set my hand and caused the Seal of State to be affixed at Austin this 29th day of May 1865, and of the Independence of United States the Ninetieth.

A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

(Signed)
By the Governor
Joseph Spencer
Acting Secretary of State

Proclamation By the Governor:

Executive Office
Austin Texas May 31st 1866.

Believing, from the many inquiries made to me, from all portions of the State, by letters and otherwise, that different views are entertained as to the qualifications requisite to entitle the citizens of the State to participate in the approaching Election for State and County Officers, and it being important that a uniform rule should be observed, I deem it proper hereby to declare, that, as a consequence of the rebellion, and in favor of the restored relations of the State to the Government of the United States, no one is entitled to vote for any of the Officers to be elected on the 25th day of June, 1866, or on the Amendments to the Constitution of the State, unless it be ascertained satisfactorily to the managers of the election that the person offering to vote has taken the Oath of Amnesty, prescribed by the President in his Proclamation of the 29th May, 1865; and persons failing within any of the exceptions of the said Proclamation of the President of the 29th May, 1865, will not be entitled to vote, until a Special Pardon is obtained from the President, and the requirements thereof complied with. And, in addition to taking the Oath of Amnesty, and procuring the Special Pardon of the President, (when necessary) each voter must be qualified as required by the Constitution and Laws of the State now in force.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of State to be affixed, at Austin, this 31st day of May, A. D. 1866, and of the Independence of the United States the Ninetieth.

A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

By the Governor
Joseph Spence
Acting Secretary of State

Executive Office
Austin Texas June 11. 1866

Having been made known to me, that at the term of the District Court begun and held on the day of January 1866, for the County of Galveston one Dick McKeen was tried and convicted of an assault and battery, and was sentenced to pay a fine of one hundred dollars and to be imprisoned in the County Jail for the term of one year, And it appearing from representations made to me that said Dick McKeen is a proper subject for Executive clemency and that no injury could result to the ends of Justice by the exercise of the same.

Now therefore, I Andrew J. Hamilton Provisional Governor of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State do hereby grant to the said Dick McKeen a full pardon and reprieve for said offence, and order that said fine & forfeiture be remitted and the officer or officers having him in charge, are hereby directed to discharge and release the said Dick McKeen from imprisonment leaving however the judgment for all costs in full force against him.

In testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name, and caused the Seal of State to be affixed at Austin, this the Eleventh day of June 1866.

(Signed) A. J. Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

By the Governor
James H. Bell
Secretary of State

Continuation of Proclamation of the 25th July, A.D. 1865.
From page 26.

4th A Convention of the people of Texas will be held at as early a period as practicable, to be composed of the number of members to which the counties are respectively entitled in the House of Representatives of the State Legislature. No person will be eligible to a seat in said convention, and no person entitled to vote for members thereto, who shall not previously thereto have taken and subscribed the following oath, prescribed in the President's Proclamation of the 29th of May 1865.

"I _____ do solemnly swear or affirm in presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder; and that I will in like manner abide by and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made during the existence of the present rebellion, with reference to the emancipation of slaves. So help me God."

And no person not qualified herewith the United States Government and loyal to it will if known, be permitted to take said oath or vote in said election. The oath will not be administered to any person embraced in any one of the exceptions to the President's Proclamation of Amnesty except for the purpose of presenting a petition for special pardon; and no one taken for such purpose, will not entitle the party to vote until special pardon has been obtained.

5th The Convention thus to be assembled will be invested with full power to alter or amend the present Constitution of the State or frame a new one and submit their action in either case to the qualified voters of the State for their acceptance or rejection.

It is expected of course, that the action of the Convention, if ratified, will provide for all that necessarily follows in the organization of a full and complete State Government.

6th The general laws and statutes of the State in force immediately preceding the 1st of February, 1861 (the date of the so-called Ordinance of Secession) are to be respected and enforced.

And all laws, or pretended laws, acts or resolutions of any Legislature, Convention, or other authority, or pretended authority, based upon or in support of dissolution of the Union, or inconsistent with the idea of Texas being an integral part of the United States Government, are inoperative and void, and no longer to be respected or obeyed by the public officers or citizens of the State, and in all things the Courts when established, will proceed according to the laws, usages and forms existing immediately prior to the said 1st February 1861, except in so far as they may be affected by the emancipation of the Slaves in the State by the authority of the United States, or other acts of the said United States for the suppression of the late rebellion.

The people of the State are invited to engage in the work of reconstructing Local Government for themselves. I come tendering in the name of the United States authority for the speedy security and freedom for the future to every generous heart will feel and every candid mind admit, that the Government of the United States seeks not and has never sought to humiliate the people of the South.

It but asks them to be friends rather than enemies.
Conquering the rebellion, the first use it makes of the power it professes is to relieve the people from the legal consequences of their act of rebellion and invite them to occupy, by their own act, their former position in the Union.
I shall not waste time or labor in the attempt to soothe those whose hearts canker because of the extinction of slavery. It died because it made war upon the Government to whose protection it owed its power and influence. It grappled with freedom in a spirit which admitted of no reconciliation, no concession-no truce or neutrality; it challenged war to mortal combat, and in the struggle it went down forever. There are those, I am told, who profess to believe that it is not yet extinct; that it still lingers and by a vigorous exhibition of stimulants may be kept in existence for some years to come; that the proclamation of emancipation was but a military order, which has now spent its force since the war is over and never had any effect, except where, by the presence of Union armies, there was physical power to enforce it. There could be no greater delusion than this; and the man or men who encourage such opinions, if such there are could not do the citizens of Texas, at this time, a greater disservice. If the rebellion is conquered slavery is dead-one is as much a fact as the other.
The negroes are not only free, but I beg to assure my fellow citizens that the Government will protect them in their freedom. For the time being, the freedmen are recommended to engage with their former masters for reasonable compensation, to labor at least till the close of the season for gathering the present crop; for them, generally, to do otherwise, would be greatly to the injury of themselves and the community at large. But let it be understood that combinations among those interested in procuring their labor to prevent them from hiring to persons who will pay the best price for such labor, and the attempt in society those who oppose such combinations, will meet with no favor at the hands of the people or Government of the United States.
And candor compels me to say to the people of Texas that if on the action of the proposed convention the negro is characterized or treated as less than a freedman, our Senators and Representatives will seek in vain admission to the Halls of Congress. It is indeed strange, that men should take a solemn oath to faithfully abide by and support all laws and proclamations, which have been made during the existing rebellion with reference to the emancipation of slaves" and in the next breath favor gradual emancipation. It is the spirit of wisdom and the spirit of liberty to accept what is inevitable without resistance, and recognize truth however unpalatable.
I could not, if I were to attempt it, satisfy those who are unwilling to believe it, that Slavery was never a good, and emancipation not an evil. A few men in the South differ with the whole civilized world upon that subject and I suppose that most of that few will will go down to their graves, sore and complaining, but in the meantime, those who realize that we never are how discovered upon us and will take advantage of the present will leave them in the background, the mourners over the lost cause of slavery. Texas has to day her future destiny in her own hands. Let her use her power wisely and she need not fear her power and influence in the future of our Country.
In the effort to aid you in the reorganization of the Civil Government

I shall be guided and controlled by no personal feeling; dictating evil of malice, and shrink from nothing from fear of blame. Believing that the experience of the last four years has prepared the mind of a majority of the people for dispassionate thought and enlightened judgment, I shall fearlessly challenge their scrutiny of all I may do or attempt. I hope to merit the approbation of those who are devoted to the principles of freedom and regularity in Government and difficult and delicate as I know the task assigned me to be still with the aid and encouragement of the loyal men of Texas, it may successfully be accomplished.

It would afford me great pleasure to meet as many of the loyal men from different sections of the State as can make it convenient to visit the Capital of the State, to confer with me upon the present and future of our State, and I now most cordially invite them to do so.

Done at the City of Galveston this 25th July A. D. 1865.
And of American Independence the Ninetieth Year.

(Signed) A J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

Notice.

To Whom it may Concern:

The Officers of the present Provisional Government of Texas, appointed by Gov. Hamilton, will continue to discharge the duties of their respective offices until the pleasure of the President of the United States concerning the installation of the persons elected on the 25th ult, to the different State, District and County offices, is made known.

The Provisional Chief Justices of Counties will issue Certificates of Election in conformity with existing laws.

For the information of the people, I think it proper to state, that I have solicited instructions (by telegraph) from the President of the United States, in reference to the continuance in office of the persons appointed by Gov Hamilton. As soon as a reply is received, it will be made public.

(Signed) James H Bell
Secretary of State

State Department
Galveston Texas July 11. 1865.

Executive Office
Austin Texas May 1st 1866.

Sir.

I feel it my duty to call your attention to the claim of Mr. W B Coffee for Cotton belonging to the State of Texas, which was collected by him in the interior of the State and shipped to Galveston where it was seized by one of your officers. How claim has been forwarded to your Office some months since. He is a poor man and has suffered much on account of his loyalty. He was one of the refugees from Texas during the rebellion and returned to the State with me last Summer and was employed by me to contract for this Cotton and get it to market at his own expense for one fourth of the proceeds. He spent several months labor and about five hundred dollars in securing the Cotton and getting it to Galveston where your Agent took possession of it. But for him it is certain that not one Bale of this Cotton would have been secured. At the time I employed him I had no idea that the United States Government would claim it, but more that it was, I feel sheer justice and good conscience requires that Mr Coffee's claim should be allowed.

Hoping to hear from you soon.

I am most Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
(Signed) A J Hamilton

Hon Hugh McCulloch
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington.

Telegram.

Austin Texas
July 2nd 1866.

To His Excellency
The President of the United States
Washington.

The election for State, District and County Officers, in this State, transpired on Monday the 25th ult, in accordance with the ordinances of the late State Convention.

The Conservative Union ticket, headed by Genl Throckmorton is, no doubt elected, by a very large majority, say three, possibly, fourteen.

A question arises whether the County Officers lately elected will qualify and enter upon the discharge of their duties. I have expressed the opinion that the officers of the Provisional Government appointed by Gov Hamilton ought to hold their respective offices until your Excellency shall signify your consent to the installation of the officers lately elected.

I would be much pleased to hear from your Excellency and have the honor to be

Your Ob. Servant
(Signed) James H Bell
Secretary of State
of the State of Texas

Telegram. Office Secretary of State
Austin Texas July 12. 1866.

To the
Hon Wm H Seward. Sec.

I had the honor to send a telegram to the President of the U. S. on the 2nd inst. I have received no reply. I now have the honor to inform you that official returns from thirty four Counties, and uncontested returns from about twenty more, indicate the election of Gen Throckmorton and the Conservative Union Candidates generally, by a majority of at least fourteen. By the laws of this State, County officers enter upon the discharge of the duties of their offices upon the expiration of ten days from the day of election. The election was on the 25th ult. In many of the Counties the newly elected officers are taking possession of the offices. I have issued a notice that the officers appointed by Governor Hamilton will hold their offices until the pleasure of the President is known. The arrest of mails however will make it impossible to give much circulation to this notice. I would be pleased to hear from you on this subject and to know when the present Provisional Government of Texas will be discontinued.

Your Obedient Servant
(Signed) James H Bell
Secretary of State

By Telegram Home
Washington D. C. July 17th 1866.

James H. Bell
Secretary of State.

Your dispatch of the 15th July has been received, the President wants after official and definite information with Steele will remain in the care of the Provisional Governor, Gen Hamilton until the President shall give further direction of which you will be advised.

Inform us when the Legislature is appointed to meet, if the Constitution or laws of the, State, upon the proceedings in the premises as reported is approved.

Wm H Seward.

Telegram To Hon Wm H Seward

State Department
Austin Texas July 21. 1866.

Hon Wm H Seward
Washington. D. C. Sir,

Your dispatch of 17th July is received.

I have the honor to inform you, that the late State Convention provided by Ordinance that the Legislature of the State shall meet at the seat of Government and begin their session on the first Monday in August A. D. 1866.

The amended Constitution of the State (which has been ratified by the people at the election held on the 25th of June), provides that "the Governor shall be inaugurated on the first thursday after the organization of the Legislature, or as soon thereafter as practicable". Official returns from eighty two Counties show that General Throckmorton received, at the late election for the Office of Governor thirty three thousand, three hundred and ninety four votes. Mr Pease received for the same Office six thousand, seven hundred and sixty four votes.

In twenty four Counties from which Official returns have been received, there were seventeen thousand, eight hundred and thirty three votes for the amended Constitution, and fourteen thousand three hundred and seven votes against it.

I am not informed whether the Provisional Governor, Gen Hamilton will return to Texas. I would be much pleased to receive definite instructions, as soon as it may be deemed proper to communicate them, in reference to the course which I am expected to pursue.

Your Obedient Servant
James H. Bell
Secretary of State
of the State of Texas

(Signed)

Election Returns for Commissioner General

Counties	Commissioner General Land Office			
	Stephen Crosby	F M White	Thos M Ward	Scattering
Anderson	773	00	65	18
Angelina	314	53	25	00
Atascosa	115	66	00	00
Austin	567	224	50	00
Bandera	42	03	00	03
Bastrop	613	369	41	00
Bee	60	00	25	
Bell	493	114	00	00
Bexar	942	1128	00	00
Blanco	87	43	17	
Bosque	221	22	06	
Bowie	282	00	09	00
Brazoria	301	32	24	00
Brazos	405	00	00	00
Brown	00	00	00	00
Burleson	456	89	25	00
Burnet	92	126	00	00
Caldwell	393	84	10	00
Calhoun	184	111	07	00
Cameron	436	00	00	00
Cherokee	42	00	03	00
Clay	877	13	214	00
Collin	00	00	00	00
Colorado	899	110	23	00
Comal	512	305	04	00
Comanche	206	333	05	01
Cooke	120	10	00	00
Coryell	424	14	01	00
Dallas	257	03	01	02
Davis	733	262	135	00
Denton	593	00	22	00
DeWitt	533	99	46	00
Ellis	391	100	00	00
El Paso	451	36	51	00
Erath	00	00	00	00
Falls	00	00	00	00
Fannin	319	19	00	00
Fayette	770	215	00	00
Fort Bend	1247	548	54	00
Freestone	310	00	49	00
Galveston	415	00	29	00
Gillespie	568	117	35	00
Goliad	41	256	00	00
	170	164	03	00
	13.947	5052	1485	6.

Landoffice. Comptroller and Treasurer: June 25th 1866.

Comptroller			Treasurer			
M L Robards	James H Shaw	Scattering	Sam Harris	W N Roysten	George Durham	Scattering
857	00	21	00	448	327	21
189	146	00	50	202	80	00
92	75	00	11	108	00	00
188	297	01	280	262	134	00
39	00	02	01	00		03
122	400	00	302	570	89	00
84	00	00	00	55	24	00
482	116	00	115	493	00	00
959	1029	02	1031	934	28	00
87	53	00	34	89	20	00
211	00	18	00	196	02	00
260	25	41	00	82	245	00
330	32	00	40	286	05	00
389	01	02	00	274	128	03
00	00	00	00	00	00	05
429	130	00	22	360	155	00
93	131	00	129	90	07	00
381	101	00	93	148	183	00
191	106	00	108	129	63	00
234	00	00	274	00	163	00
46	00	00	00	32	13	00
1011	12	00	12	1066	00	00
10	00	00	00	00	00	00
940	111	00	78	852	71	00
341	251	00	272	510	30	00
201	340	00	339	140	17	00
115	11	00	14	106	05	00
468	13	00	04	453	11	00
245	09	00	00	134	28	00
885	114	02	258	317	455	00
598	06	00	00	366	230	00
585	97	00	89	404	124	00
351	105	00	76	204	196	00
505	36	00	53	249	196	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00
810	20	00	00	294	30	00
690	144	00	185	687	05	00
636	621	00	534	509	119	00
372	00	00	00	135	183	
421	00	02	00	369	43	00
573	136	00	131	387	155	00
40	261	00	259	23	15	00
192	188	00	168	172	09	00
16428	5123	91				

Election Returns for Commissioner General Land Office

Counties	Commissioner General Land Office.			
	S Crosby	F M White	Thos M. Ward	Scattering
Gonzales	420	15	63	
Grayson	827	101	05	00
Grimes	718	03	57	00
Guadaloupe	435-9	200	00	00
Harris	1035-6	102	267	00
Harrison	785	04	14	00
Hays	117	05	18	00
Henderson	474	42	03	00
Hidalgo	388	00	00	00
Hill	355	04	00	00
Hopkins	985	183	00	00
Houston	566	180	00	00
Hunt	712	07	00	00
Hamilton	123	00	00	00
Hardin	78	20	01	00
Jack	41	00	00	00
Jackson	112	10	00	00
Jasper	325	03	00	00
Jefferson	128	01	09	00
Johnson	510	00	00	01
Kaufman	187	02	00	00
Kendall	585	18	87	00
Kerr	19	132	00	00
Lamar	13	20	00	00
Lavaca	1034	104	01	00
Leon	81	16	05	00
Limestone	172	34	02	00
Live Oak	250	41	00	00
Liberty	257	04	80	00
Lampasas	345	22	00	00
Live Oak	11	01	32	00
Llano	93	19	04	00
Madison	177	01	00	00
Marion	126	21	01	01
McLennan	00	00	00	00
McCulloch	39	00	00	00
Mason	05	50	00	00
Matagorda	185	37	05	00
Milam	00	00	00	00
Medina	20	208	00	00
Milam	409	01	00	00
Montague	00	00	00	00
Montgomery	547	03	00	00
Matagorda	541	00	66	00
Navarro	508	09	00	00
	32003	6850	2198	29

Returns for [illegible]

Comptroller and Treasurer June 25th 1866.

Comptroller			Treasurer			
W L Richards	James H Shaw	Scattering	Sam Harris	M N Kayston	George Durham	Scattering
613	14	00	43	475	143	00
785	98	00	99	303	21	00
714	113	00	03	92	348	00
461	197	00	199	455	00	00
1343	127	00	119	932	400	00
775	00	00	00	599	111	00
177	12	00	06	123	53	00
379	89	00	90	360	05	00
388	00	00	42	00	336	00
335	08	00	01	324	02	00
587	146	00	150	174	99	00
544	174	00	170	336	157	00
571	04	00	04	583	00	00
112	00	00	00	113	00	00
69	06	00	01	55	07	00
40	00	00	00	36	04	00
133	36	00	34	62	19	00
261	32	00	02	295	13	00
139	00	00	00	70	54	00
535	00	00	05	534	04	00
180	02	00	00	131	56	00
645	23	00	18	469	112	00
16	136	00	136	16	00	00
13	34	06	40	62	01	00
1005	75	00	78	00	794	00
82	22	00	29	67	00	00
686	23	00	25	442	225	00
125	06	00	07	112	65	00
326	00	00	03	148	131	00
295	00	03	06	208	77	00
57	01	00	01	82	00	00
96	15	00	00	25	92	00
141	00	00	00	157	09	00
617	79	00	13	573	42	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00
40	00	00	00	00	38	00
03	47	00	45	00	06	00
186	40	00	38	179	10	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00
17	206	00	202	16	08	00
451	07	00	00	411	48	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00
539	04	00	04	445	70	00
215	293	00	00	307	229	00
483	05	00	05	442	20	00
32102	7261	105	6809			

Election Returns for Commissioner General Land Office

Counties	Commissioner General Land Office.			
	S Crosby	F. M. White	Thos. M. Neal	Scattering
Newton				
Nueces	146	129	00	00
Orange	00	00	00	00
Palo Pinto	13	00	00	00
Panola	539	00	33	00
Parker	525	145	00	00
Polk	216	00	01	00
Red River	103	27	00	00
Refugio	127	27	00	00
Robertson	451	15	01	00
Rusk	833	33	219	00
Scurry	110	18	35	00
San Augustine	113	00	132	00
San Patricio				
San Saba	112	00	01	00
Shelby	439	29	23	00
Smith	995	121	51	00
Starr	267	00	00	00
Stephens				
Somervell	558	18	15	00
Titus	602	00	17	00
Travis	450	335	134	00
Tarrant	339	02	12	00
Taylor	417	05	01	00
Upshur	828	00	38	00
Uvalde	31	21	00	00
Van Zandt	402	75	07	00
Victoria	258	135	15	00
Walker	415	06	112	00
Washington	1029	150	05	00
Webb				
Wharton	132	29	37	00
Williamson	390	240	43	00
Wilbarger				
Wise	242	14	00	00
Wood	212	245	46	00
Young				
Zapata				
	44390	8773	3172	19

Comptroller and Treasurer June 28th 1866.

Comptroller			Treasurer.			
H. L. Richards	James H. Shaw	Scattering	Sam. Norris	N. H. Royster	George Gresham	Scattering
0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 00	0 00
1 4 4	1 3 2	0 0	1 3 3	1 4 3	0 0	0 0
0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0	0
6 7	0 0	0 0	0 0	7 0	0 0	0 0
5 2 5	0 0	0 0	0 0	2 3 4	2 4 5	1 0
5 2 3	1 4 6	0 0	1 4 6	5 2 1	0 0	0 0
4 4 3	0 0	0 0	0 0	2 0 9	2 2 1	0 0
1 5 4	0 5	0 5	1 1	5 7	1 1 4	0 0
1 2 3	2 7	0 0	3 0	1 2 3	0 0	0 0
1 3 5	2 7	0 0	0 7	1 0 6	4 4	0 0
9 9 5	3 7	0 0	3 2	3 1 2	5 0	0 0
1 9 2	1 1	0 0	1 5	1 5	1 4 5	0 0
2 8 4	0 0	0 0	0 0	4 2	2 0 5	0 0
0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
1 1 0	0 1	2 2	0 1	0 0	1 0 1	0 1
4 1 9	3 2	0 0	3 6	1 3 4	2 5 1	0 0
1 1 5 2	1 1 5	0 0	1 1 6	2 0 5	0 0	0 0
2 3 0	0 0	0 0	3 6	0 0	2 3 3	0 0
0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0	0
5 7 8	2 2	5 1	2 2	3 1 6	1 7	
3 7 3	1 0	0 0	0 0	3 3 7	1 5 1	0 0
5 1 6	4 1 0	0 0	4 1 5	3 3 7	1 7 0	0 0
3 4 5	0 0	0 0	0 0	1 5 6	1 3 7	0 0
3 5 1	0 0	0 0	0 7	3 1 0	1	0 0
5 3 5	0 0	0 0	0 0	6 5 5	1 3 7	0 0
2 7	2 1	0 0	2 1	0 1	0 6	0 0
3 2 5	6 7	0 0	5 1	1 5 7	1 3 1	0 0
2 1 5	1 5 1	0 0	1 2 7	1 0 7	2 7	0 0
5 7 1	0 0	0 0	0 8	3 1 0	6 0	0 0
9 7 7	1 1 5	0 7	1 2 5	5 7 5	1 4	0 0
1 7 4	1 6	0 0	1 6	1 5	1	0 0
4 1 9	2 1 0	0 0	2 3 5	3 2 7	1 0 1	0 0
1 9 6	0 5	1 0	1 7	2 0 9	0 0	0 0
2 1 6	2 5	1 0	2 4 6	1 5 7	5 5	0 0
44694	16497	185	5610	30979	12658	46

Election Returns on Amendments to the Constitution. June 2nd 1856.

Counties	For Amendments	Against Amendments	Counties	For Amendments	Against Amendments	Counties	For Amendments	Against Amendments
Anderson	141	237	Gonzales	505	96	Nacogdoches	100	559
Angelina	53	316	Grayson	461	458	Navarro	345	259
Atascosa	80	29	Grimes	527	135	Nueces	[illegible]	[illegible]
Austin	545	1154	Guadalupe	516	126	Orange	127	50
Brazoria	42	01	Harris	442	249	Panola	06	91
Brazos	00	00	Harrison	680	129	Parker	55	03
Bee	16	54	Hays	121	55	Rusk	54	450
Bell	00	00	Henderson	305	262	Refugio	1135	1154
Bexar	1102	500	Hidalgo	391	01	Red River	1048	312
Blanco	51	61	Hill	235	142	Robertson	552	511
Bosque	129	148	Hopkins	1854	322	Refugio	103	110
Bowie	175	116	Houston	273	422	Starr	00	50
Brazoria	210	33	Hunt	1941	442	Scurry	179	1059
Bridges	00	00	Hamilton	65	61	Sabine	07	226
Burton	00	00	Hardin	22	108	San Augustine	23	204
Burleson	213	322	Jack	23	15	San Patricio	00	00
Burnet	71	137	Jackson	115	75	San Saba	51	72
Caldwell	325	71	Jasper	00	00	Shelby	29	539
Calhoun	86	93	Jefferson	94	55	Smith	764	426
Cameron	446	07	Johnson	00	00	Starr	141	00
Chambers	14	24	Kaufman	79	32	Stephens	00	00
Cherokee	505	553	Kendall	514	205	Stevens	434	238
Clay	00	00	Kendall	17	113	Titus	429	428
Collin	787	304	Kerr	113	54	Travis	321	438
Colorado	295	455	Lamar	955	231	Trinity	00	00
Comal	214	277	Lampasas	12	134	Tyler	14	356
Comanche	06	94	La Salle	352	55	Uvalde	575	50
Cooke	229	249	Lavaca	186	234	Van Zandt	33	42
Coryell	00	00	Leon	00	00	Victoria	177	366
Cottle	517	526	Liberty	41	195	Walker	285	73
Cass	515	322	Live Oak	56	55	Washington	461	447
Cherokee	1144	359	Limestone	59	451	Washington	1001	419
De Witt	131	316	Medina	199	35	Webb	00	00
Ellis	291	545	Milam	16	40	Wharton	135	05
Erath			Montgomery	131	16	Williamson	213	394
Falls	150	212	Mc Lennan	610	110	Wilson	00	00
Fannin	451	713	Mc Mullen			Wise	119	151
Fayette	413	539	Mc Culloch	20	29	Young	94	431
Fort Bend	291	23	Nacogdoches	175	43	Zavala	00	01
Freestone	129	352	Navarro			Refugio	120	00
Galveston	1114	103	Nueces	1105	153	Gonzales		
Gillespie	50	211	Montgomery					
Goliad	193	185	Montgomery	251	135			
				1061	[illegible]	1810	2154	
Total	7696	9255		20309	15214	28118	23468	

Election Returns for Judges Supreme Court

Counties	Judges of					
	Moore G.F.	Rich'd Cake	S.P. Conley	A.W. Wilson	G.W. Smith	J.W. Bell
Anderson	503	424	604	248	226	15
Angelina	221	118	246	110	193	82
Atascosa	107	102	104	109	88	45
Austin	245	392	413	416	105	230
Bastrop	385	350	354	355	254	105
Bell	186	154	184	152	72	104
Bexar	437	54	52	10	437	381
Blanco	39	26	39	36	16	00
Bosque	634	511	1083	569	564	34
Brazos	00	00	00	00	00	00
Brown	702	672	726	648	610	150
Burleson	339	337	325	304	192	304
Burnet	191	188	185	193	190	331
Camanche	13	142	91	00	120	18
Cooke	405	406	379	33	45	11
Coryell	194	253	197	89	194	13
Collins	589	611	589	411	494	257
Davis	544	378	590	379		00
Denton	431	451	439	419	435	99
De Witt	337	303	318	331	270	72
Ellis	338	425	410	362	129	45
El Paso	12	00	00	00		00
Erath	00	00	00	00		00
Falls	298	323	298	101	243	27
Fannin	143	481	466	430	97	197
Fayette	581	511	515	417	311	595
Fort Bend	215	241	199	156	305	03
Freestone	316	388	395	194	155	02
Gonzales	39	41	89	41	41	00
Grayson	544	495	461	531	520	409
Gregg	119	70	47	45	67	00
Hall	426	467	418	338	424	119
Hamilton	945	947	912	929	806	946
Harrison	89	86	84	86	52	44
Hays	218	257	214	32	205	13
Henderson	246	180	262	295	124	00
Hood	234	261	258	201	204	33
Houston	359	359	365	325	114	00
Hunt						
Jackson	383	373	355	416	303	82
Jasper	98	89	93	93	93	130
Jefferson	438	426	424	320	381	145
Kaufman	38	35	36	36	36	211
Kendall	162	180	148	161	121	174
Kerr	553	533	566	547	219	157
	13231	13229	13865	11048	12110	568

And Attorney General, June 25th 1866.

Supreme Court						Attorney General.			
W. E. Jones	C. Caldwell	Chas Cleveland	W. G. Johnson	W. B. Rochester	Scattering	Wm Walton	C. Buckley	Barker	Scattering
11	11	236	09	433	00	537	00	190	00
65	00	92	00	60	00	200	00	106	10
78	60	00	28	00	47	97	73	00	00
275	213	375	00	00	242	298	291	47	03
98	91	114	00	00	00	356	93	03	00
107	102	99	09	00	29	185	104	08	00
382	00	00	00	00	411	293	137	00	06
00	00	27	00	21	00	37	00	05	00
14	06	409	06	427	00	515	10	405	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
99	86	24	346	171	00	815	113	87	00
224	23	59	04	01	00	426	254	39	00
338	325	01	00	00	155	193	344	04	00
08	09	00	00	00	00	31	15	00	34
09	11	10	325	00	11	414	14	00	00
07	04	00	00	00	03	131	11	00	23
253	258	237	410	425	200	516	03	313	00
00	00	532	201	178	00	394	00	198	00
98	65	48	140	89	00	511	108	11	06
18	13	55	37	00	54	240	92	140	00
37	42	210	91	205	00	341	37	154	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
19	19	33	00	01	01	286	18	09	00
53	00	293	471	398	00	616	361	67	00
505	462	203	00	00	55	660	510	00	00
00	00	116	00	26	03	158	05	62	00
00	00	162	00	24	04	299	00	109	00
05	03	00	00	00	00	00	04	00	00
359	326	47	00	00	00	632	356	36	00
00	00	36	00	00	00	78	00	00	00
85	81	00	00	00	00	451	11	00	00
109	945	28	00	00	00	965	1025	00	00
35	42	04	110	00	01	80	54	00	00
05	00	04	00	00	37	29	00	00	35
00	00	157	153	35	00	254	00	31	12
29	30	234	26	00	00	216	50	60	00
00	00	184	09	48	04	358	00	49	00
19	21	02	08	00	00	158	33	255	00
128	120	00	00	00	00	96	118	12	00
121	129	234	98	54	00	105	50	440	00
259	250	02	200	00	04	37	260		
134	130	53	00	00	01	134	183	00	00
15	15	45	14	02	13	55	14	00	00
5071	4090	5045	3123	3111					

Election Returns for Judges of the Supreme

Counties	Judges of the					
	G F Moore	Rich Coke	S P Donley	A H Willie	Gr Smith	J H Bell
Anderson	507	513	538	11	480	219
Andrews	00	00	00	00	00	00
Angelina	605	588	627	599	369	03
Aransas	425	424	417	430	06	204
Archer	110	124	110	02	110	00
Armstrong	00	00	00	00	00	00
Atascosa	31	34	45	23	46	28
Austin	1056	1085	1016	990	623	117
Bandera	435	370	416	515	88	04
Bastrop	00	00	00	00	00	00
Baylor	161	158	153	153	163	16
Bee	328	311	353	157	376	120
Bell	299	99	99	00	267	215
Bexar	270	349	214	82	213	20
Blanco	136	457	109	92	50	149
Borden	458	322	312	330	216	171
Bosque	430	556	569	71	526	06
Bowie	36	35	110	15	35	00
Brazoria	134	129	132	123	80	38
Brazos	249	238	284	50	61	07
Brewster	92	50	70	85	22	00
Brown	443	474	455	21	450	12
Burnet	146	132	142	145	123	04
Calhoun	430	442	556	422	414	18
Callahan	16	14	16	16	18	132
Cass	64	64	64	64	64	37
Cherokee	00	00	00	00	00	00
Childress	00	00	00	00	00	00
Clay	490	698	515	501	255	55
Coleman	21	58	61	60	44	82
Collin	511	514	495	501	438	29
Collingsworth	136	111	136	102	101	26
Colorado	257	221	241	241	43	03
Comanche	241	281	264	112	143	35
Concho	33	36	39	28	36	00
Cooke	90	91	83	85	84	19
Coryell	35	35	35	35	35	00
Cottle	509	675	504	273	440	85
Crane	00	00	00	00	00	00
Crockett	147	138	147	37	108	00
Crosby	00	00	00	00	00	00
Dallas	04	04	04	04	04	48
Dallam	160	162	160	107	110	38
Dawson	17	16	20	16	17	199
Delta	301	374	371	437	322	13
	23783	23638	24370	18133	19189	786

Court and Attorney Generals. June 25th 1866.

Supreme Court.						Attorney Generals.			
H E Jones	C Caldwell	Chas Cleaveland	H H Johnson	N B Ochiltree	Scattering	N M Walton	C Binckley	A Banton	Scattering
179	72	18	10	574	00	655	263	01	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00			
03	25	274	00	109	00	310	03	338	00
209	200	426	00	00	195	451	105	000	00
01	00	41	00	00	01	57	00	00	57
00	00	00	00	00	00	00			
00	00	50	00	00	00	56	06	09	00
96	112	849	00	318	00	349	90	199	00
00	00	291	299	514	00	116	01	612	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
14	01	05	00	00	00	165	05	10	00
62	00	15	00	07	00	83	54	31	00
239	00	00	00	00	310				
01	00	47	00	00	02	355	01	00	01
141	140	378	635	482	00	630	150	118	00
143	140	308	139	110	00	128	162	362	00
04	02	00	351	52	00	615	09	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	40	00	00	00
37	33	55	20	00	00	15	32	65	00
00	00	276	00	00	00	255	00	00	41
00	00	144	00	77	00	112	00	06	00
06	27	00	22	01	09	492	01	14	00
02	02	33	00	00	00	187	02	00	00
15	14	125	15	280	00	089	15	46	00
135	134	01	114	00	56	16	134	00	00
10	07	00	27	00	05	63	34	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
11	00	301	316	123	00	196	70	126	00
80	78	13	00	00	00	84	25	00	00
25	24	196	25	00	00	427	25	132	00
29	25	90	24	81	25	39	37	134	00
00	03	282	00	113	00	162	00	153	00
00	00	87	00	07	00	236	00	18	00
00	00	39	00	00	00	55	01	00	01
17	16	00	00	00	00	97	18	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	38	00	00	00
39	32	35	02	20	01	120	35	06	00
00	00	12	00	00	25	01	00	197	00
00	00	00	00	00	02	04	48	00	00
19	48	00	00	00	67	187	36	02	00
29	30	48	00	00	05	16	208	00	00
200	199	00	33	00	01	310	00	122	00
00	00	35	00						
6965	6506	9933	5213	6118					

Election Returns for Judges of the Supreme

Counties	Judges of the					
	S F Moore	Rich^d Cake	S P Conley	A H Willie	G W Smith	H H Bell
Montague	00	00	00	00	00	00
Montgomery	519	485	481	416	161	115
Nacogdoches	420	260	370	215	211	120
Navarro	432	484	446	331	84	10
Newton	00	00	00	00	00	00
Nueces	132	119	122	110	117	133
Orange	66	61	76	25	30	00
Palo Pinto	19	26	19	11	19	00
Panola	257	242	272	324	67	00
Parker	480	497	486	00	238	139
Presidio	00	00	00	00	00	00
Polk	46	52	48	46	105	30
Red River	516	123	117	575	86	45
Refugio	101	83	33	112	80	15
Roberts	402	434	416	286	356	20
Rusk	616	274	912	645	216	47
Sabine	101	38	30	106	84	16
San Augustine	78	42	68	119	67	10
San Patricio	00	00	00	00	00	00
San Saba	98	96	99	95	97	01
Shelby	245	179	251	215	121	37
Smith	878	906	1084	814	022	141
Starr	218	184	173	00	212	28
Stephens	00	00	00	00	00	20
Sutton	471	446	490	452	185	00
Titus	523	488	548	224	00	00
Travis	508	430	376	425	439	449
Trinity	142	131	142	131	11	02
Tyler	67	148	159	40	56	14
Upshur	638	101	352	354	224	00
Uvalde	23	23	17	14	23	20
Van Zandt	224	205	319	199	162	120
Victoria	248	246	250	258	208	132
Walker	433	423	356	436	215	03
Washington	760	755	699	946	622	160
Webb	00	00	00	00	00	00
Wharton	154	161	158	128	132	35
Wilson	00	00	00	00	00	00
Wise	216	215	210	214	217	09
Williamson	318	302	329	318	345	279
Wood	131	132	283	77	86	239
Young	00	00	00	00	00	00
Zapata	00	00	00	00	00	
	34.473	33.316	36.110	26.947	24.477	10.000

Court and Attorney General. June 25th 1866.

Supreme Court.						Attorney General.			
N. E. Jones	C. Caldwell	Chas. Cleveland	N. C. Johnson	T. B. Orbison	Scattering	Wm. M. Watson	C. Binkley	J. Benton	Scattering
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
03	07	245	03	12	00	233	03	240	00
00	00	245	00	00	244	318	00	186	00
00	15	00	00	205	33	427	00	35	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
132	131	87	131	00	131	146	132	00	00
00	00	81	00	49	00	89	00	04	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	38	00	00	01
00	00	259		300	17	249	00	242	00
131	133	00	120	00	00	520	145	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
17	27	485	00	00	04	05	00	42	00
19	04	589	255	136	00	588	20	60	03
17	17	83	00	00	103	123	30	00	00
12	09	83	17	01	00	313	03	172	00
30	28	382	13	327	00	444	39	424	00
16	16	129	15	114	84	175	16	20	00
02	01	123	00	56	185	220	00	36	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
02	00	00	00	00	01	119	00	00	00
37	20	174	19	206	218	339	33	59	05
91	93	892	108	29	00	297	119	681	00
39	00	00	00	00	304	149	34	00	81
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00	109	325	93	128	00	518	55	12	22
00	00	247	218	197	00	369	00	75	00
388	297	27	00	07	04	497	317	103	00
00	00	355	00	09	04	49	00	261	00
01	00	384	00	04	16	248	00	99	00
00	00	160	42	610	00	464	00	1228	08
21	21	00	00	00	24	18	19	00	09
128	78	130	72	64	00	147	91	156	00
123	126	47	35	00	09	202	129	65	00
00	00	516	215	00	00	208	00	389	00
143	144	99	43	00	36	351	161	414	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
11	15	60	00	00	00	153	14	16	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
07	01	02	05	00	00	214	05	00	00
239	221	28	00	00	00	414	236	37	00
222	220	135	257	145	23	187	244	46	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
8788	8244	16658	7010	9050		32076	8522	10618	

This is to certify that on this the 6th Day of August 1866. the Hon. Alexander Attorney General and James H Bell Secretary of State proceeded to open and count the returns made to the Secretary of State according to law of the vote given, on the 25th Day of June A. D. 1866. for five Judges of the Supreme Court. and an Attorney General of the State of Texas. and that the foregoing Six pages contain a true copy of said vote.

James H. Bell
Secretary of State.
William Alexander
Attorney General

Election Returns for Judge 1st Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	Ben Shropshire	John T Harcourt	Ben H Mallon	Ho T Garrett	Scattering
Fayette	687	409	66	00	00
Colorado	395	299	91	00	00
Wharton	98	31	65	02	00
Fort Bend	33	57	265	03	00
Brazoria	161	72	99	00	00
Matagorda	116	45	58	00	00
Austin	371	567	95	07	00
	1861	1480	739	12	00

Election Returns for District Attorney 1st Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	B Simmons	Wells Thompson	J C Williams	Emmet Jones	Scattering
Fayette	837	173	12	104	00
Colorado	348	448	115	48	00
Wharton	79	107	01	03	00
Fort Bend	63	184	80	17	00
Brazoria	115	193	25	14	00
Matagorda	55	146	12	07	00
Austin	336	695	14	62	00
	1833	2946	189	255	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney. 2nd Judicial District. June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney					
	John Ireland	H. G. Francis	Scattering	John B. Rector	Wm. O. Goldsmith	S. G. Sneed	A. H. Longley	J. H. Burts	H. Maney
Travis	478	435	00	230	36	297	309	34	04
Hays	123	53	00	37	92	39	03	19	00
Guadalupe	427	213	00	189	164	58	133	50	72
Caldwell	346	132	00	40	93	27	79	232	12
Bastrop	409	627	00	612	20	37	320	36	01
Total	1783	1460	00	1108	405	458	844	391	89

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 3rd Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge		For District Attorney			
	James E. Shepherd	Scattering	W. W. Wheeler	A. C. Briggs	Wm. Alexander	Scattering
Washington	1167	00	588	229	352	00
Brazos	195	00	20	265	66	00
Burleson	540	00	149	60	347	00
Milam	511	00	105	166	259	00
Total	2413	00	862	723	1054	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 4th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney			
	Wm Fleming	J H Duncan	Scattering	H E Hollon	E Helgett	J G Anderson	Scatg
Carroll	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Kendall	135	135	00	14	07	128	00
Kerr	46	62	00	60	01	115	00
La Blanca	59	80	00	20	09	54	00
Neblasque	246	44	00	34	19	245	00
Bexar	1032	947	00	858	00	1043	00
Total	1503	1148	00	1036	36	1514	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 5th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge		For District Attorney	
	C Payne	S H Hayden	S B Bewley	William Clark
Newton	00	00	00	00
Jasper	118	191	106	221
Sabine	166	60	87	134
Shelby	249	84	252	150
Sanaugustine	217	50	253	64
Angelina	306	124	329	124
Nacogdoches	279	238	358	355
Total	1355	730	1385	1046

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney 16th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney		
	W.C. Ector	J.B. Williamson	Scattering	John Burke	H. McKay	Scattering
Wood	214	256	06	251	204	00
Upshur	811	53	00	786	125	00
Harrison	595	216	00	334	412	00
Panola	571	51	07	335	332	00
Rusk	1134	145	00	748	507	00
Total	3325	721	13	2374	1600	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 7th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney			
	J.R. Kennard	Geo. Goldthwaite	Scattering	L.B. Knighton	R. Samuel	J.G. Walker	Scattering
Walker	450	117	00	414	111	63	00
Grimes	669	88	00	160	363	255	00
Montgomery	345	180	00	115	310	125	00
Harris	469	773	00	394	129	930	00
Galveston	395	279	00	146	346	194	00
Total	2528	1437	00	1232	1259	1573	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 8th Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney			
	B F Gray	H P Mabry	Scattering	Geo Todd	F H Cline	Hall	Scatty
Red River	557	517	00	723	195	00	00
Bowie	183	139	00	218	99	05	00
Davis	311	371	00	439	218	00	00
Titus	432	497	00	441	413		00
Hopkins	599	599	00	593	497		00
Hunt	See 20th District						
Fannin							
Lamar	657	591	00	317	529	04	00
Marion	26	329	00	372	31	00	00
	2515	3043	00	3103	2252	09	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney 9th Judicial District June 25 1866.

Counties	For Judge				For District Attorney			
	L T Cooper	A A Sears	J J Jennings	Scattering	G W Whitmore	Jack Cain	T S Jennings	Scattering
Harrison	523	285	01	00	178	303	250	00
Cherokee	345	838	42	00	299	251	648	00
Anderson	111	559	09	00	68	292	501	00
Henderson	221	356	00	00	224	185	101	00
Smith	270	1002	17	00	285	730	265	00
Shawnee	00000	00000	0000	00	000	000	0000	00
Van Zandt	See 16th	District	0000	00	000	000	0000	00
	1476	3340	74	00	1051	1761	1765	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 10th Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge				For District Attorney			
	D D Mott	A M Mills	S A White	Scattering	S C Lackey	J Ferguson	Maley Ogden	Scattering
Victoria	150	12	242	00	132	139	123	00
Jackson	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
La Vaca	507	213	64	00	379	329	28	00
De Witt	221	199	67	00	343	93	41	00
Gonzales	168	378	108	00	457	192	10	00
Calhoun	183	00	108	00	117	53	118	00
Total	1229	802	597	00	1428	906	520	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 11th Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge		For Districh Atty		
	W P Bacon	A M Jackson	Sol A Gabrielle	D G Hill	Scatg
This return was received in Austin 21st 1866 (Dec returns) Presidio El Paso Travis	481	16	491	01	00
	481	16	491	01	00

Department of State
Austin, Texas, Sept 22d 1866.

The count determining the election of "District Judge of the 13th Judicial District" is corrected according to the "Corrected Returns" (see opposite, Page 219); but the Convent of E McWhirter to whom the Certificate of Election issued, the said Certificate having been returned by him to this Department and is on file with said "Corrected Returns" also his letter accompanying the same; said on the day the Citificate of Election was issued to R S Gould.

See opinion of Atty. Genl
Gov Throckmortons Record. Page

Jno A. Green
Secretary of State.

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 12th Judicial District, June 25th 1866. Legalized by An Act Approved Sept 2nd 1866"

Counties	For Judge		For District Attorney		
	Stephen Powers	Mark Cox	Edward Caughety	M Cox	C K Lucas
Cameron	1100	24	1106	3	1
Hidalgo	included in Cameron		Co Return		
Starr	included in Cameron		Co Return		
Zapata					
Webb					
Kinney	See Act	Approved	Sept 2nd 1866"		
Total	1100	24	1100	3	1

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney for the 13th Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

For corrected returns see next Webb ★

Counties	For Judge				For District Attorney			
	R S Gould	C M Winkler	Isaac Taylor	A G Perry	L J Harris	H D Pendergast	M M Jones	Scattering
Madison	127	80	06	00	12	11	202	00
Robertson	92	433	08	37	292	123	49	01
Falls	171	32	08	184	180	120	102	00
Limestone	220	184	51	46	382	81	52	00
Hill	57	219	10	60	261	61	38	00
Navarro	37	499	81	03	322	111	115	00
Freestone	383	106	15	12	387	108	23	00
Leon	396	67	33	29	215	135	166	00
Total	1483	1620	212	371	2051	750	747	01

Corrected Election Returns for Judge of 13th Judicial District June 25th 1866

Counties	For Judge 13th Judicial District				
	R S Gould	C M Winkler	Isaac Taylor	A G Perry	Scattering
Madison	127	80	06	00	00
Robertson	119	270	08	53	00
Falls	171	32	08	184	00
Limestone	220	184	51	46	00
Hill	57	219	10	60	00
Navarro	37	499	81	03	00
Hill	383	106	15	12	00
Leon	396	67	33	29	00
Total	1510	1457	212	389	00

★ See addy Genl Hall Journal 11

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 14th Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney			
	E O Upton	A Buckalew	Keathley	W R Lane	J Givens	J M Cockburn	Scat
San Patricio	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Live Oak	00	96	00	03	55	33	00
Nueces	02	175	00	22	41	115	00
Goliad	148	218	00	229	104	32	00
Refugio	41	118	00	33	108	20	00
Bee	03	70	00	06	32	45	00
Nueces	00	275	00	132	73	69	00
Total	194	952	00	425	413	314	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney 15th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties.	For Judge			For District Attorney		
	Saml Wilson	B C Franklin	Scattering	J M Crosson	A B Powell	Scat
Chambers	28	12	00	42	00	00
Liberty	147	196	00	333	00	00
Polk	232	288	00	336	00	00
Trinity	227	137	00	312	00	00
Tyler	388	78	00	382	33	00
Hardin	89	16	00	102	05	00
Jefferson	00	00	00	00	00	00
Orange	92	04	00	90	15	00
Total	1203	730	00	1525	53	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 16th Judicial District, June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge				For District Attorney			
	R.M. Scott	T.J. Gaud	J.H. Sam	Scattering	E. Kavanaugh	J.E. McCauley	J.T. Payne	Scattering
Ellis	146	251	235	00	121	490	39	00
Johnson	70	319	235	00	162	346	77	00
Tarrant	124	279	250	00	171	459	11	00
Dallas	375	156	172	00	467	393	116	00
Navarro	195	439	139	00	267	413	32	00
Kaufman	176	290	288	00	212	415	140	00
VanZandt	316	172	97	00	351	240	37	00
Total	1432	2206	1436	00	1751	2956	1442	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney 17th Judicial District. June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge			For District Attorney		
	T.J. Haughton	P.A. Haughton	Scattering	W.J. Montgomery	W.K. Makemson	Scat
Bennet	00	00	00	00	00	00
Llano	98	23	00	91	19	00
Mason	09	31	00	09	44	00
Menard	00	00	00	00	00	00
McCulloch	00	00	00	00	00	00
San Saba	104	28	00	111	20	00
Brown	00	00	00	00	00	00
Lampasas	86	68	00	76	56	00
Williamson	384	212	00	313	279	07
Total	681	412	00	650	415	07

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney 18th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

	For Judge		For District Attorney		
	J H Stevens	Scattering	J R Shook	A Allen	Scattering
Atascosa	190	00	92	100	00
Bandera	244	00	25	15	00
Uvalde	50	00	13	11	02
Medina	226	00	172	54	00
Wilson					
Maverick					
Kinney					
			302	180	

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney 19th Judicial District June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge				For District Attorney		
	F Harrison	A J Evans	W Bell McFarland	Scattering	C B Pearce	W D Chambers	Scattering
Bell	04	00	00	00	00	00	00
Coryell	154	20	119	00	157	112	00
Hamilton	60	09	17	00	48	69	00
Comanche	100	22	28	00	15	117	00
Lake Leon	60	01	06	00	53	11	00
Erath	00	00	00	00	00	00	00
Bosque	102	64	129	00	185	66	00
McLennan	470	163	61	00	402	241	00
	946	279	550	00	830	616	00

Election Returns for Judge and District Attorney of the 20th Judicial District. June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Judge		For District Attorney		
	W G T Weaver	Scattering	D C Dodd	A J Howell	Scattering
Collin	1193	00	913	156	00
Denton	836	00	694	244	00
Howard	831	00	702	126	00
Wise	217	00	118	108	00
Jack	53	00	46	06	00
Johnson	1270	00	405	654	00
Young	00	00	00	00	00
Throckmorton	00	00	00	00	00
Archer	00	00	00	00	00
Clay	00	00	00	00	00
Montague	00	00	00	00	00
Cooke	507	00	422	35	00
Grayson	1107	00	880	25	00
	5-774	00	4179	1206	00

This is to Certify that on this the 6th Day of August 1866. Wm. Alexander Attorney General and J. H. Bell Secretary of State, proceeded to ascertain the returns made according to law to the Secretary of State of the votes given in the 1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 12th 13th 14th 15th 16th 17th 18th 19th and 20th Judicial District each for a District Judge and District Attorney at an election held therein on the 25th day of June A. D. 1866. and that the tables of the two preceding pages show a true and correct copy of the votes returned.

Samuel H. Bell
Secretary of State.

William Alexander
Atty Gen

Election Returns for Governor and Lieut Governor.
June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Governor: James T Throckmorton	E M Pease	Scattering	For Lieut Governor: G T Jones	L Lindsay	Scattering
Anderson	910	23	00	829	20	00
Angelina	213	124	00	330	50	00
Atascosa	140	21	00	139	66	00
Austin	690	534	00	721	428	34
Bandera	42	03	00	41	03	40
Bastrop	671	376	00	711	341	00
Bee	75	11	00	78	00	00
Bell	495	113	00	521	86	00
Bexar	966	1030	00	923	1024	00
Blanco	93	50	00	81	52	00
Bosque	236	40	00	225	00	31
Brazos	322	06	00	303	00	00
Brazoria	356	34	00	329	33	00
Bragos	413	11	00	404	00	00
Brown	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burleson	494	113	00	541	68	00
Burnet	107	136	00	120	127	00
Caldwell	413	101	00	432	85	00
Calhoun	192	106	00	194	57	15
Cameron	157	280	00	436	00	00
Cass	59	00	00	45	00	00
Cherokee	1046	93	00	1061	14	00
Clay	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colin	1044	121	00	993	117	00
Colorado	552	329	00	576	301	00
Comal	190	363	00	197	352	00
Comanche	121	24	00	118	16	00
Cooke	512	28	00	504	00	12
Coryell	274	15	00	265	07	01
Cullen	921	367	00	597	259	01
Davis						
Denton	654	142	00	620	104	00
De Witt	408	79	00	385	100	00
Ellis	525	59	00	517	55	06
El Paso						
Erath	224	131	00	181	105	00
Fields	373	35	00	371	19	03
Fannin	921	334	00	857	236	00
Fayette	606	606	00	761	56	00
Freestone	373	15	00	373	00	00
Fredonia	475	07	01	473	00	00
Galveston	596	132	00	557	121	00

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Election Returns for Governor and Lieut Governor

June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Governor			For Lieut Governor		
	James M Brackenridge	E W G Pearce	Scattering	Gn James	L. Leinbach	Scattering
Allegheny	5 12	241	00	4 35	257	00
Bedford	1 95	1 81	00	1 95	179	00
Berks						
Blair	8 25	1 53	00	8 49	98	00
Bradford	2 64	17	00	2 91	03	00
Bucks	4 58	2 06	00	4 60	198	00
Butler	1 29	02	00	1 28	00	00
Cambria						
Cameron	73	34	00	71	05	00
Carbon	13 98	1 32	00	1 399	117	00
Centre	1 96	06	00	1 852	01	00
Chester	1 854	11	00	1 85	06	00
Clarion	4 13	84	00	4 18	00	72
Clearfield	64	334	00	358	00	00
Clinton	3 25	29	00	3 29	00	02
Columbia	10 58	1 34	00	2 64	100	00
Crawford	5 82	181	00	5 32	171	00
Cumberland	2 12	54	00	6 86	07	00
Dauphin	31	20	00	39	00	00
Delaware	1 34	26	00	1 34	33	00
Elk	3 12	14	00	3 17	00	00
Erie	1 43	03	00	1 37	00	00
Fayette	5 75	25	00	5 39	14	06
Forest	95	03	00	1 853	02	00
Franklin	1 92	03	00	1 86	15	11
Fulton	6 98	44	00	6 26	00	00
Greene	17	1 35	00	16	136	00
Huntingdon	65	41	00	65	42	00
Indiana						
Jefferson	1 81	1 61	00	1 100	22	03
Juniata	89	80	00	91	84	00
Lancaster	2 29	31	00	2 15	28	00
Lawrence	3 62	23	00	3 84	00	40
Lebanon	3 33	03	00	3 36	00	01
Lehigh	3 92	61	00	3 62	00	00
Luzerne	91	02	00	94	01	00
Lycoming	95	21	00	109	10	00
M'Kean	36	05	00	41	00	00
Mercer	6 57	15	00	6 44	44	07
Mifflin						
Monroe	226	114	00	212	00	00
Montgomery	4 04	02	00	4 06	00	01
Montour	08	61		05	50	01
	1 914	2744				

Election Returns For Governor and Lieut Governor.
June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Governor			For Lieut Governor		
	James W Throckmorton	E M Pease	Scattering	G W Jones	L Lindsay	Scattering
Matagorda	192	39	00	188	36	02
Medina	119	217	00	120	204	00
Milam	520	124	00	523	00	00
Montague	110	30	00	110	20	00
Montgomery	538	41	00	534	20	00
Nacogdoches	166	22	00	168	00	00
Navarro	574	19	00	535	00	03
Newton						
Nueces	146	134	00	146	120	12
Orange	104	01	00	104	00	00
Palo Pinto	72	01	00	71	00	00
Panola	567	26	00	550	00	22
Parker	529	145	00	534	144	00
Polk	261	49	00	268	00	31
Presidio						
Red River	1057	48	00	1007	07	00
Refugio	121	33	00	127	29	00
Robertson	493	08	00	483	05	00
Rusk	971	126	00	971	43	00
Sabine	186	37	00	193	17	00
San Augustine	286	08	00	286	01	00
San Patricio						
San Saba	130	11	00	133	01	00
Shelby	435	120	00	419	43	00
Smith	1168	110	00	1131	97	00
Starr	287	29	00	268	00	01
Stephens						
Sutton	628	121	00	606	39	28
Titus	878	67	00	836	00	00
Travis	601	318	00	633	242	00
Trinity	347	27	00	344	00	00
Tyler	221	200	00	400	01	00
Upshur	888	07	00	879	00	00
Uvalde	46	27	00	32	19	00
Van Zandt	401	176	00	325	88	00
Victoria	275	125	00	275	136	00
Walker	601	03	00	604	00	00
Washington	982	252	00	1064	171	00
Webb						
Wharton	156	21	00	155	16	00
Wilson						
	15773	2916	15			

Election Returns for Governor and Lieut. Governor.
June 25th 1866.

Counties	For Governor			For Lieut Governor		
	James W. Throckmorton	E.M.C. Pease	Scattering	George W. Jones	Livingston Lindsay	Scattering
Wise	218	119	00	223	05	24
Williamson	433	268	00	457	236	00
Bandera	254	265	00	254	258	00
Young						
Cooke	00	120	00	00	120	00
Burnet						
Total	905	772				

Memorandum.

Judge Several of the Counties the returns embraced in the above table were made by both the Chief Justices respectively by Brewer, Hamilton and the newly elected Chief Justice. So much of the returns made by the respective Sheriffs here above been regarded. Where more than the returns have been made by the newly elected Chief Justice only. The returns for Governor and Lieut Governor from the remainder of the Counties are embraced in the returns for other State and District offices, but for want of time to get the information before hand could not be embraced in the above table. The Counties heretofore explained not specified have not as yet returned. Secretary's Office Aug 1st 1866 Secretary of State

(Signed) James W. Throckmorton
Governor of Texas.

Wm. Brewer
Private Secretary.

State Department
Berlin Feb 2nd 1866.

To the Hon
The Speaker of the House of Representatives
Sir

In compliance
with an Act of the Legislature approved March 6. 1865
I have the honor herewith to transmit a Table of the returns
(together with the returned) of the vote for Governor and
Lieut Governor, on the Second Tuesday in this present
month. The Secretary Certificate of the State vote are also herewith
in the 20th day of June 1866 and Proclamation of the Result
of the Said State Election.

I have the honor to be
(Signed) Your very obedient
Servant

Telegram to Hon W H Seward.

State Department
Austin Texas July 2d 1866

Hon W H Seward

Please inform me by telegram whether or not it is the will of the President that the Legislature of Texas shall meet on the 6th day of August, and Gov Throckmorton be inaugurated on the 9th. Will the Legislature be permitted to assemble without the inauguration of the Governor elect? I say what am I expected to do? You will perceive by reference to your dispatch of July 17th that my instructions are not definite. My solicitude increases as the time for the meeting of the Legislature approaches.

Your ob't Servant
(Signed) James H Bell
Secretary of State.

Telegram.

July 28th 1866.
War Dept Washington

To Jas H Bell

Your telegram of the 27th and 28th July received. The President directs me to say that the Legislature of Texas will assemble and organize on the 6th of August without hindrance. The Governor elect Mr Throckmorton will be inaugurated on the 9th without hindrance. When you have reported the Organization and inauguration to this Department by telegraph or otherwise the Provisional Governor will be relieved and the Government will be transferred to the elected authorities of Texas, until the receipt of such notice by yourself or by the Governor elect, the condition of affairs will remain in the Provisional Government as heretofore except the organization and inauguration of are stated.

(Signed) W H Seward
Secretary of State

Executive Department
Austin Texas May 5th 1865

Hon Wm H Seward
Washington D C

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that the resistance of this State to the Federal Authority has terminated. The Commanding General in Command of the Military Division of the Mississippi has issued orders for the disbandment of the Rebel Troops in this State. Respectfully your obdt servt

(Signed) Andrew J Hamilton
Provisional Governor of Texas

Sir

The time has arrived when in the judgment of the President of the United States the Civil Authorities of the States of Texas may be restored to the Constitutional Authorities thereof, without danger to the peace and safety of the United States. By the direction of the President, therefore, you are relieved from the trust which was heretofore reposed in you as Provisional Governor of the State of Texas.

Whenever the Governor elect shall have accepted and become qualified to discharge the duties of the Executive Office, you will transfer the papers and property of the State now in your custody to his Excellency, the Governor elect. You will please give me timely notice specifying the day on which this communication is received.

I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obedient servant,

(Signed) Henry Stanbery
Attorney General of State

Circular.

State Department
Austin Texas Aug. 15th 1866

The President of the United States having directed the Provisional Governor of the State of Texas to inaugurate the Civil Government of the State and the Courts of the regularly elected officers of the same, the appointees of Governor Hamilton to the several State, District and County Offices of the State of Texas, will at once cease to discharge the duties and functions of their offices and deliver over all books, papers and records belonging to the same, or in their possession or under their control to the officers elected on the 25th day of June, 1866, taking receipts for the same.

The Assessors and Collectors of Taxes appointed by Gov. Hamilton, will settle their accounts with the Comptroller, at his office in this City, forthwith and to bring all moneys in their hands. They will also make a statement of all uncollected balances of State Tax, showing the amounts due upon property in the County, separately from the amounts due upon Lots or City taxes, and also showing from whom all amounts are due. These statements will be signed by the Provisional Assessors and Collectors, and also by their sureties, and shall be filed by the Provisional Assessors and Collectors in the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts, at the time of their settlement with him. The Provisional Assessors and Collectors may then and there duplicate receipts from their successors for these uncollected balances, one of which will be filed with the Comptroller and the other retained by the Provisional Officer.

(Signed) James H. Bell
Secretary of State.